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ordines.

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SOLERTIA ET LABORE fiunt omnia.*

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THE  
*Feminine Monarchie*

THE HISTORIE  
OF BEES.

S H E W I N G

Their admirable Nature, and Properties,  
Their Generation, and Colonies,  
Their Government, Loyaltie, Art, Industrie,  
Enemies, Warres, Magnanimitie, &c.

With the right ordering of them from time to  
time: And the great profit arising thereof.

Written out of Experience

CHARLES BUTLER. Magd.

Plant: in Truculi: Aët: 2. Sc. 6.


*Pluris est oculatus testis unus, quam auriti decem.*

LONDON,

Printed by JOHN HAVILAND for Roger Jackson,  
and are to be sold at his Shop in Fleetstreet, over  
against the Conduit. 1623.



THE  
 January Aquarius  
 February pisces  
 March aries  
 April Taurus  
 May gemini  
 June Cancer  
 July Leo  
 August Virgo  
 September Libra  
 October Scorpio  
 November sagittarius  
 December Capricorn



# THE PREFACE TO THE READER.

Plin. Nat.  
hist. l. 11, ca.  
5.

**T**H E great Naturalist, to expresse the excellency of the nature of Bees, saith thus, *Inter omnia insecta principatus Apibus, & iure principua admiratio: solis ex eo genere hominum causa genitis.* Of all *insecta* the Bees are chiefe, and worthily to be most admired; being the only things of that kinde, which are bred for the behoofe of men. The later part of which saying, although the delicate Silk-worme haue in some hotter Climates disproued; (for in the colder countries, such as is our Iland of *Britaine*, I doubt mee shee will neuer quit cost: and therefore is here to be entertained only of them, that doe more respect their pleasure, than their profit; and doe content themselues with the beholding of their quaint worke, not expecting any further recompence for their expence and paines;) yet must she needs confesse the former, and wheresoeuer she meet the ingenious and laborious Bee, yeeld the precedence to her, as to hir Better. For the fruit of the Silk-worme serueth only to couer the body; but the fruit of the Bees to nourish and cure it: that is to be applied outwardly, this to be inwardly receiued: that for comlinesse and conueniency, this for health and necessity. But, to omit comparison, the worke and fruit of the little Bee is so great and wonderfull, so comely for order and beauty,



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Var. l. 3. s.  
25.

Nat. Hist.  
l. 11. c. 9.

beauty, so excellent for Art and wisdom, & so full of pleasure and profit; that the contemplation thereof may well besecme an ingenious nature. And therefore (not without cause) are the Bees called the Muses Birds: *Apes cum causa Musarum esse dicuntur volucres.*

The loue of which did so rauish *Aristomachus* and *Philiscus*, that, as *Plinie* reporteth, they were pleased to spend most of their time in this pleasing businesse. *Ne quis* (saith he) *miretur amore earum captos Aristomachum Solensem duode sexaginta annis nihil aliud egisse; Philiscum vero Thasium in desertis apes colentem Agriam cognominatum: qui ambo scribere de his.* *Aristotle* thought his *Historia animalium* vnperfect, vnlesse he had inserted a Tract of the Nature of Bees: of which he discourseth more at large, than he doth of any other living creature. *Plinie* likewise, in his *Naturalis historia*, is very copious in this argument. Besides whom, diuers other haue written thereof: as *Columella*, *Varro*, *Palladius*, *Auerroes*. Yea the learned & graue Fathers of the Church, *S. Ambrose*, and *Isidore* haue thought it asubiect fit for their pens. Vnto which I may adde infinite others of later times, both in Latine and English.

But the many yeeres experiments & obseruations, which those great Bee-masters *Aristom.* and *Philiscus* had leaft in writing to posterity; Time, ah iniurious Time, hath buried in obliuion. And for the rest that are extant, they seeme vnto me to rely more vpon the relation of others, than any certaine knowledge of their owne. Notwithstanding there are scattered in them, specially in *Aristotle* & *Plinie*, among many false and friuolous conceits, some true and profitable notes: which being found agreeable to experience, I haue here and there in this Treatise, as the matter requireth, for ornament and authoritie inserted. But the latter Writers, imitating the ancient where they thought good, chusing some of their directions, and refusing others,

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thers, doe, for the most part, vnluckily light vpon the worse: so that, being compared, they are no way matchable vnto them; whom by the aduantage of time they might haue surpassed. Among which *Georgius Pictorius* a learned Physician deserueth best, as hauing taken most paines in perusing the ancient Authors, and gathering their matter into his method. Whom one *T. H.* of *London* translating word for word into English, as well as he could, concealing the Authors name, aduentured to publish in his owne name. These and the like when a Scholar hath thoroughly read, hee thinketh himselte thoroughly instructed in these mysteries: but when he commeth abroad to put his reading in practise, euery silly woman is ready to deride his learned ignorance.

Wherefore considering how great the vertue and efficacy of the fruit of Bees is, both for the preserving, and restoring of mans health, I thought it not amisse to spend some by-time for my recreation, in searching out their nature and properties, their helpes and hinderances, that I might know how to doe good vnto them, which are so good for vs, and what is the due and right ordering of these delightful, profitable, and necessary creatures. And hauing to my contentment, though to my cost, in some sort obtained my desire, I was incited, euen by the rule of charitie, to communicate that to my neighbours and country-men, which I haue since found so beneficiall to my selfe: so that the Reader may now freely reape the fruit of that, which the Author hath deerely sowed vnto him.

The Philosopher intreating of the breeding of Bees, professeth himselte vncertaine of their sex: and therefore, willing in this vncertaintie to grace so worthy a creature with the worthier title, he euery where calleth their gouernour *Bees Rex*. As many as followed him, searching no farther than he did, were content to say as he said. So that I am in-

forced

*P. 10. p. 3.*

*De generat.  
an. 1. 3. c. 10.*



## The Preface to the Reader.

forced (vnlesse I will chuse rather to offend in *idiotisme* than in *vacibus*) by their leale and chine (learned Reader) to straine the ordinarie signification of the word *Rey*, and, in such places, to translate it *Queene*, sith the males here beare no sway at all, this being an *Amazonian* or *feminine* kingdome. *v.*

V.c.4.n.11.

In distinguishing the times of the yeere, I vse the Astronomickall months, as most naturall and fitting to my purpose. *v.* Where note that by the name of each moneth, is commonly vnderstood the first day of the same moneth, (namely, wheresoeuer this preposition *At*, is set before it) except onely where it followeth, *In*, or *After*, or otherwise the sense doth plainly shew that it is spoken of the whole Moneth.

V.c.3.n.36.

When you haue once, for your satisfaction, perused this Booke, you need not afterward seeke farre for any thing therein, whereof you doubt: the *Index* of the Chapters or Contents of the Booke; and of the Marginall notes, or Contents of the Chapters will readily direct you. For example, if you would know the Spleeting of Hides, or the manner of Hiuing Bees; looking into the *Index* of the Chapters, you shall perceiue the one to appertaine to the Third, and the other to the Fifth; and running ouer the Contents of either Chapter, you shall finde the first to be the Tenth note, and the other the 53. Then turning to these Marginall Notes in the said Chapters, you haue in the Text ouer against them your desire.

Note also, that whereas you haue in the Margin, with these Marginall Notes, certaine References vnto other places of the Booke, for further explanation of those places against which they stand; *V.* signifieth *vide*, or *See*, *C.* with his number the Chapter, and *N.* with his number the Marginall Note. But if *N.* follow *V.* without *C.*; then doth it note some Note of the same Chapter.

## The Preface to the Reader.

I am out of doubt that this Booke of Bees will in his Infancie lie hidden in obscuritie, as the Booke of Tropes and Figures did for a while goe vnregarded, without friends or acquaintance: but as that did by little and little insinuate it selfe into the love and liking of many Schooles, yea of the Vniuersitie it selfe, where it hath beene both priuately and publikely read; (a fauour, which this Mother doth seldom afford to hir owne Children, lest haply she should seeme too fond ouer them:) so this will in time tranell into the most remote parts of this great kingdome of Great Britaine, and be entertained of all sorts both learned and vnlearned: although the *Muses Birds* are fittest for the *Muses*, and the knowledge of their long-hidden secrets was chiefly published for the *Muses* friends. *Quibus me, quicquid sum, & studia mea dico.* Wotton. May 30. 1623.

CHAR: BUTLER.

A

Ad

When I had view'd this Common-wealth of Bees,  
Obscure their Lawes, their Arts, and their Degrees;  
As show, belike their princely Workmen, one  
They haue their Time, their Capacities, and their Power  
How they e're; how earely they Feed;  
How curiously they Build; how chally they Breed;  
How seriously they Busie they intend;  
How stoutly they their Common-good defend;



**Ad Authorem.**



*Venatare Apibus, quemembra, scientia, sensu,  
 Virtutes, atq; ingenium, pietas,  
 Quae statio, & sedet, sebetes, examina, cetera.  
 His haec condendi promptum ubiq; modus;  
 Quae princeps, populus, regimen, respublica, mores,  
 Qua sint arma, hostes, praelia, castra, duces,  
 Quam celeri campos gressu, sylvasq; peragant,  
 Quae cellas fingunt arte, labore replent,  
 Quam prosint hominum generi caelestia dona,  
 Utque magis prosint quo moderanda modo;  
 Per te miranda haec levium spectacula rerum  
 Mystica tot seclis clausa reclusa patent.*

*Aut a consilijs Apibus, Butlere, fuisti,  
 Aut a consilijs est Apis ipsa tuis.*

**W**Hen I had view'd this Common-wealth of Bees,  
 Obseru'd their *Lines*, their *Art*, and their *Degrees*:  
 As; how, beside their painefull *Vulgar ones*,  
 They haue their *Prince*, their *Captaines*, and their *Drones*:  
 How they *Agree*; how temp'rately they *Feed*;  
 How curiously they *Build*; how chastly *Breed*;  
 How seriously their *Bus'nesse* they intend;  
 How stoutly they their *Common-good* defend;

How

How timely their *Provisions* are provided;  
How orderly their *Labors* are divided;  
What *Vermes* patterns, and what grounds of *Art*,  
What *Pleasures*, and what *Profits* they impart;  
When these, with all those other things I minde  
Which in this *Booke*, concerning *Bees*, I finde:  
Me thinkes, there is not halfe that worth in *Mee*,  
Which I haue apprehended in a *Bee*.  
And that the *Pismere*, and these *Hony-flies*,  
Instruct vs better to Philosophize,  
Than all those tedious *Volumes*, which, as yet,  
Are leaft vnto vs by meere *Humane-wit*.  
For, whereas those but only *Rules* doe giue;  
These by *Examples* teach vs how to liue.

Great God Almighty! in thy pretty *Bee*,  
Mine Eye (as written in small letters) sees  
An *Abstract* of that *Wisdom*, Power, and *Loue*,  
Which is imprinted on the *Heauens* about  
In larger *Volumes*, for their eyes to see,  
That in such little prints behold not Thee.  
And in this *Workmanship* (oh Lord) of thine,  
I praise thy *Wisdom*, and thy *Power* divine.

And Praise deserves this *Author*, who hath chose  
So well his Times of Leisure to dispose,  
And in that *Recreation* to delight,  
Which honour God, and vs advantage might.  
For, since our humane weakenesse doth require,  
That in our serioust *Labours* we retire;  
(Because vnlesse the String be sometime slacke  
The strongest Bow will haue the feeblest backe)  
What *Recreation* better can be had

Our graue *Diuines*; than (when the *Holy writ*  
Is laid aside) in Gods great booke of *Creatures*  
To reade his *Wisdom*, and their vsefull *Natures*?

Thus doth our *Author*. And, not only thus;  
But, like his *Bees*, makes *hony* too for vs.  
And is contented that, to helpe vs thrive,  
We should partake the profit of his *Hime*.

For



For which (my share) I thank him; and for those  
 The *Muses-Birds*; whose nature here he shewes.  
 And mauer such as will his *Paines* concerne,  
 The *Muses* thus, by me, doe honour them.

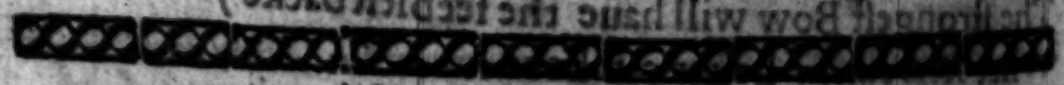
GEORGE WITHER



Ad Carolum Butler.

**A** Ntè me fè chartis promissis, ut Rhetor, epigramma  
 At nunc mellitae promissis, ut Histor, epigramma  
*Incipit ex apibus, sed et in mel desinit ipsum:*  
*Suaviter incipit suavis exis opus*

WARNERY SOUTH



# The Chapters, or the Contents of *this* B O O K E.

**M**Y Booke of Bees I divide into ten Chapters.

- 1 The first, of the nature and properties of Bees, and of their Queen.
- 2 The second, of the Bee-garden, and Seats for the Hives.
- 3 The third, of the Hives, and the Dressing of them.
- 4 The fourth, of the Breeding of Bees, and of the Drone.
- 5 The fifth, of their Swarming, and the Hiving of them.
- 6 The sixth, of their Worke.
- 7 The seventh, of their Enemies.
- 8 The eighth, of Feeding them.
- 9 The ninth, of Remouing them.
- 10 The tenth, of the Fruir and Profit of them.

## The Notes or the Contents of the first Chapter, concerning the nature and properties of Bees.

**B**EES yeeld great profit with small cost.

- 1 Euery country fit for Bees.
- 2 Bees abhorre idlenesse.
- 3 Bees haue a Common wealth.
- 4 Their working, watching, fighting, dwelling, diet, wealth, and young ones are all in common.
- 5 Bees alwaies loyall to their Soueraigne.
- 6 Bees endure no government, but a Monarchie.
- 7 A memorable experiment.
- 8 The description of the Queene-Bee.
- 9 Bees haue also inferiour Governours or Capitaines.
- 10 Which are knowne by peculiar marks.
- 11 Two sorts of Bees.
- 12 The parts of a Bee.
- 13 Hir hornes.
- 14 Hir eyes.
- 15 Hir fangs.

- 16 Hir tongue, with the parts of it.
- 17 Hir foure wings.
- 18 Hir feet.
- 19 Hir two weapons.
- 20 Hir fangs commonly used against insects.
- 21 Hir speere sometime.
- 22 Stinging present death to Bees.
- 23 The speeres commonly used against other creatures.
- 24 Haire and feathers cause the Bees to sting.
- 25 Wooll and woollen do not offend them.
- 26 Houshold Leather, and Vellat naught among Bees.
- 27 The Bees in their anger time at the head.
- 28 When any is stung, the company must be gone.
- 29 The Bees haue the worst, when they sting.
- 30 They lose their sting and entrails, and consequently their liues.
- 31 The speere, of it selfe, pierceth deepe when



when the Bee is gone.

33 How to prevent the paine & swelling.

34 Nothing but Time can cure their sting.

35 What things the Bee-master must avoid

36 The six properties of a Bee-master.

37 Safer to walke then to stand among Bees.

38 The fittest time to stirre about Bees.

39 In the heat of the day they are most angry.

40 How to be armed when the Bees are angry.

41 Bees dangerous to Cattell.

42 The Bees Senses.

43 Their sight dimme.

44 Their smelling very quicke.

45 Hearing and feeling.

46 Tasting.

47 Their Vertues.

48 Fortitude.

49 Prudence and knowledge.

50 A strange tale concerning the knowledge and deuotion of Bees.

51 Temperance.

52 Iustice.

53 Chastity.

54 Cleanlinesse.

55 The age of Bees.

56 The difference betweene the young Bees and old.

57 The office of the young Bees.

58 And of the old.

59 Bees wont esloomes to play.

60 They are soone kild with cold.

61 How to reuiue them.

62 The Bees excellencies.

63 Bees a chiefe exemplar of the power and wisdom.

### The Contents of the second Chapter, concerning the Beegarden, with Seats for the hives.

1 Of five things requisite in a Bee-garden, the first is, that it be high at hand.

2 That it be safely fenced from cattell and winds.

3 The north & east fences should be high.

4 The South and West fence must be so good, but not so high as to hide the Sunne from the Hives.

5 In rough winds the Bees need a screen.

6 That it be sweet.

7 Neither very cold in winter, nor in Summer.

8 A grassie ground is best, but kept close and dry.

9 Beset with trees and bushes.

10 Two sorts of Seats.

11 The benches not so good as single stools.

12 Sometimes may be set on Benches.

13 Wooden Stools better than they of stone.

14 The size of stools.

15 Which way the stools should be set.

16 How nere to each other.

17 How nere to the fences.

18 *Annus claustricus.*

19 The Bees Register.

20 The stools height.

21 How to be footed.

### The Contents of the third Chapter, concerning the Hives, and the Dressing of them, both before and after Huiung.

1 Two sorts of Hives.

2 Strawne Hives with their inconueniences and remedies.

3 Wicker Hives with their inconueniences and remedies.

4 Strawne Hives best.

5 The fashion of Hives.

6 The size of Hives.

7 When Hives are to be made & provided.

8 How Hives are to be dressed before they receiue the swarms.

9 The pruning of Hives.

10 The spraying or spleeting of them.

11 The making of the Cap, and of the Spleets.

12 The seasoning of them.

13 The seasoning of an old Hive.

14 How Hives are to be ordered when the Bees are in them.

15 The

- 15 The Hives alwaies well backed.
- 16 How to make a Hackle.
- 17 The Cap of two sorts.
- 18 The wreathed Cap.
- 19 The platted Cap.
- 20 The bignesse of the Hackle.
- 21 The length of it.
- 22 The Belt or girth.
- 23 The hackle now & then to be taken off.
- 24 The Hives alwaies close cloomed.
- 25 Then seldome to be maid.
- 26 How a Hive lifted up is to bee set downe againe.
- 27 The Hive-doore.
- 28 The Gate or Summer-doore.
- 29 Of the doore posts and the use of them.
- 30 The Winter-doore, or Wicket.
- 31 The use of it.
- 32 The Barre.
- 33 The use of it.
- 34 The Settle.
- 35 How to order the Bee-hives through-out the yeere.
- 36 The Moneths and Quarters of the Melisse an yeere.
- 37 SUMMER.
- 38 In GEMINI set the Doores wide open.
- 39 CANCER.
- 40 To make the Bees swarme.
- 41 To keepe them from swarming.
- 42 LEO.
- 43 How and when to kill the Drones.
- 44 HARVEST.
- 45 VIRGO.
- 46 To keepe the weaker Hives from robbing.
- 47 Set up the Winter-doores.
- 48 And keepe them shut till they offer to goe abroad.
- 49 The reared stalls now to be set downe againe.
- 50 In Virgo try whether the Bees will live.
- 51 Now take the Combes.
- 52 LIBRA.
- 53 Try them againe in Libra also.
- 54 Now set up the Wickets to the best, &

keepe the rest shut till the Bees offer to goe abroad.

## 55 SCORPIO.

56 Continue the shutting and opening of the Wickets this moneth also.

57 How to dresse the Hives for Winter.

## 58 WINTER.

59 SAGIT. CAPRIC. AQUAR. three still moneths.

60 How the Bees spend their time in them.

61 The first sharpe weather in Capr. shut the Bees in.

62 And in pleasant weather let them loose, if it may be, once a fortnight.

## 63 The SPRING.

## 64 PISCES.

65 The first faire day in Pisces, set the Bees at liberty.

66 Now dresse their Troughs.

67 Cleanse the Stools.

68 And feede or drive light stalls.

## 69 ARIES.

70 The second chiefe robbing-time.

71 In TAVRVS, remove the Barres.

72 In GEMINI, the Winter-doores.

## The Contents of the fourth Chapter, concerning the Breeding of Bees, and concerning the Drone.

1 The Drone no labourer.

2 Divers opinions of the Drone's originall.

3 The Drone is the Male-Bee.

4 Divers reasons proving the Drone to be the Male.

The first reason is, that they are suffered in breeding-time onely.

5 The second reason is, that the Drones being taken away in breeding-time, the Bees breed no more.

6 The third reason is, that they are bred by the Bees.

7 The fourth reason is, that the Wasps and Doyres have Drones, which are their males.

8 The breeding of Wasps by Drones.

9 The



- 9 The breeding of Drones by Drones.
- 10 The first reason is the apparent signes of their Sex.
- 11 Aristotles objections answered.
- 12 When the Bees begin to breed.
- 13 The chiefe time of breeding.
- 14 The first breed are females.
- 15 The manner of their breeding.
- 16 The Bee-seed is first turned into a Worme.
- 17 The Worme being dead groweth to the shape of a Bee, and then liueth againe.
- 18 The breeding of the Lady Bees.
- 19 When the Drones are bred.
- 20 When they come abroad.
- 21 Two uses of the Drones.
- 22 Where they lie.
- 23 The male Bees are subiect to the females.
- 24 When the Bees leaue breeding, and beat away their Drones.
- 25 The Bees compared to the Amazons.
- 26 They rid not their Drones all at once.
- 27 When forward flocks begin.
- 28 When the backward.
- 29 When full flocks that haue not swarmed.
- 30 When those that are ouer-swarmed.
- 31 Sometime the Bees cast out even the white Cephens.
- 32 Timely ridding of Drones a good signe.
- 33 Sometime they rid their Drones in the Spring.
- 34 And afterward breed new againe.
- 35 Sometime it is good to helpe the Bees in this worke.

### The Contents of the fifth Chapter, concerning the Swarming of Bees, and the Hiuing of them.

- 1 The parts of a swarme.
- 2 When you may see the Queen-Bee.
- 3 The swarme no younger then the flocke.
- 4 Many Drones in a swarme a good signe.
- 5 A kinde spring for swarmes.
- 6 Swarming weather.

- 7 The swarming beanes.
- 8 The two swarming manner.
- 9 Raibe swarmes.
- 10 Late swarmes.
- 11 Black-bee swarmes are seldom to be kept.
- 12 A prime swarme & an after swarme.
- 13 A stall may cast foure times.
- 14 Diuers causes of breaking the prime swarme.
- 15 One prime swarme worth two after swarmes.
- 16 The vulgar Bees appoint the rising of the fore-swarme, and that upon some grounds.
- 17 Five signes of the first swarming.
- 18 The signes of present swarming.
- 19 To lie forth continually is a signe they will not swarme.
- 20 The causes of their lying forth.
- 21 The remedy and meanes to make them swarme.
- 22 What is to be done to those that by no meanes will swarme.
- 23 How to replenish an ouer-swarme.
- 24 How to double a stall.
- 25 How to drine all the Bees into the new hive, and so to take the old.
- 26 The signes of after-swarmes.
- 27 The rising of the after-swarme is appointed by the Rulers.
- 28 The Bees Musicke.
- 29 The Prince part.
- 30 The Queenes part.
- 31 The other Ladies parts.
- 32 In the Bees song are the grounds of musicke.
- 33 Before swarming the voices come downe to the steele.
- 34 The manner of their swarming.
- 35 The prime swarme being broken, the next may call and swarme within the eighth day.
- 36 All the swarmes of one hive come within a fortnight.
- 37 What use there is of ringing the swarme.
- 38 What to doe if the swarme bee myward.
- 39 Some

39 Some swarmes provide their houses before hand.  
 40 And then they flye away directly to the place.  
 41 *Vesna alvearia* flies seueral parades in *Apicaria*.  
 42 The bining of Bees.  
 43 When they are to be bined.  
 44 The token of their flying away after they bee sealed.

45 How to fit the Hives to the swarmes.  
 46 Bitter to vnder-bine a stall then to over-bine him.

47 Three things requisite to bining.

48 The Mantle.

49 The single Rest.

50 The double rest.

51 The brush.

52 What the Hiner must doe.

53 The manner of Hining.

54 Foure meanes of bining a Swarme.

55 How to bine a Swarme that lighteth upon a bough.

56 Either high.

57 Or low.

58 How if it light upon a high tree.

59 How if upon the body of a tree.

60 How if it light upon the top of any thing.

61 How if it light in the middle of a dead hedge.

62 How if it light on some hollow side of a stub or tree.

63 How if it flie into a hollow tree.

64 How if it light upon another Hive.

65 The swarme is alwayes to be kept together, lest the Bees kill one another.

66 The swarme to be set neere the lighting-place.

67 What to doe if a swarme part.

68 Uniting of swarmes is profitable.

69 The manner of uniting.

70 Another way.

71 Two speciall inconueniences to bee avoided in this worke.

72 1. Superfluous multitude.

73 2. Ciuill warre.

74 To prevent the first.

75 To prevent the second.

76 When most danger is.

77 A storie of a deadly feud.

78 The causes of a swarmes going home againe.

79 How to stay them.

80 How to keepe them from other Hives.

81 What to doe.

82 How to remove it.

83 How to set it on his seat.

84 How to use it in the morning.

85 Foul weather the first day doth much discourage a swarme.

86 Foul weather continuing doth make it droupe and die.

87 A swarme may live six daies without Hone.

88 How to prevent the drouping and death of a swarme.

89 How to cure a drouping Swarme.

## The Contents of the first Chapter concerning the Bees worke.

1 Bees most industrious creatures.

2 In three moneths they cannot worke.

3 All the yeere after they lose no time.

4 Three fruits of Bees labour.

5 The first and ground of all is wax.

6 How wax is gathered and wrought.

7 How you may see the working of the combe.

8 How much wax they bring at once.

9 The admirable Architecture of their combs and cells.

10 The Drone-combe.

11 The Queenes cells are built single in diuers places.

12 In fashion round.

13 The common error ament these cells.

14 The combes doe often change their bus.

15 Wax is gathered only in foure moneths.

16 Honey the second fruit is gathered in 9 moneths.

17 Two sorts of Honey.

18 How Ambrosia or grosse honie is gathered.

19 Ambrosia is the Schadons food, as water is to drinke.

20 Being kept, it is some corrupted.

21 And then becommeth most vsauory stopping.

22 Much stopping maketh the Bees forsake their hives.

23 This Ambrosia is commonly taken for wax.

24 Which error is disprooued by sense.

25 And reason.

26 And by authority.



honey courser or finer according to the soile.

- 32 The full cells they close with wax.
- 33 Nectar and Ambrosia made of many simples.
- 34 Dandelion continueth longest.
- 35 What Pigees yeeldeth.
- 36 What Aries.
- 37 Taurus.
- 38 Gemini.
- 39 Cancer.
- 40 Of Honie-dewes.
- 41 The Bees which most earnestly in a Honey-dew.
- 42 What the Honie-dew is.
- 43 When the Honie-dewes are most frequent.
- 44 The time when they fall.
- 45 What Leo yeeldeth.
- 46 Virgo.
- 47 Libra.
- 48 Scorpio.
- 49 The Bees gather but of one kind of flower in one voyage.
- 50 They gather honie out of poison.
- 51 What store of Honie a stall may haue.
- 52 Bees haue necessary use of water.
- 53 Chiefly for their breed.
- 54 The making of the watering-place.
- 55 How to finde wilde Bees.
- 56 Bee-troughs in Gardens profitable.
- 57 The forme and size of a Bee-trough.
- 58 The trough couer, and the use of it.
- 59 The seasoning and ordering of the Bee-trough.
- 60 Bee-troughs of stone.
- 61 Sometime they water in the streets.
- 62 And after a shoure, all about the garden.

### The Contents of the seuenth Chapter concerning the Bees enemies.

- 1 The Bees enemies are many.
- 2 1. The Mouse.
- 3 Remedies against the Mouse.
- 4 2. The Wood-pecker.
- 5 3. The Titmouse.
- 6 The subtil practise of the Titmouse.

- 7 4. The Snail.
- 8 Remedies against the Titmouse and Snail.
- 9 5. The Hornet.
- 10 The Hornets sting is dangerous.
- 11 6. The Waspe.
- 12 When she feedeth upon Bees.
- 13 When she stealeth honie.
- 14 When they were away.
- 15 In what yeere the Waspes are few.
- 16 In what yeere they abound.
- 17 Remedies against the Waspe.
- 18 7. The Moth.
- 19 8. The Snail.
- 20 What harme the Moth doth.
- 21 9. The Eme.
- 22 10. The Spider.
- 23 11. The Toad.
- 24 12. The Frog.
- 25 13. The Bee the Bees greatest enemy.
- 26 Robbing or fighting of Bees in winter and summer but little.
- 27 In the spring more earnest.
- 28 The most spoile is made in Harvest.
- 29 What Stalls are most subiect to robbing.
- 30 What Bees are the robbers.
- 31 How they begin the fray.
- 32 Theeues of diuers Hives agree together in robbing.
- 33 The description of the Bees battell.
- 34 In the battell is heard a sound like a drum and a Flout.
- 35 The assault of the enemy.
- 36 The defence of the besieged.
- 37 Neither side willing to yeeld.
- 38 The exercise of the defendants when the enemy retirith.
- 39 The Waspes like Vultures.
- 40 The battell ended they bury their dead.
- 41 The second assault of the enemy.
- 42 When the true Bees yeeld, they goe with the Conquerours.
- 43 Remedies.
- 44 To preuent robbing.
- 45 And to slay it, if you finde it in time.
- 46 When it is too late, and what is then to be done.
- 47 Robbing hurtfull also to the Theeues.
- 48 In what yeeres robbing is most rise.
- 49 Bees kil poore swarms that wander in the spring.

- 50 To prevent the death of poore swarmer.
- 51 Many killed in swarming.
- 52 14. The Weather.
- 53 In Summer heat hurteth the Bees.
- 54 In Winter the Sun-shine in frost and snare.
- 55 The Remedy.
- 56 Also the Easterne winds and great frosts.
- 57 And the cold continued maketh them sick.
- 58 The raine rotteth the Hives.
- 59 The Remedy.
- 60 The greatest losse by weather is in the spring: for then infinite multitudes are beaten downe, laden and weary, with stormes and wind.
- 61 At the rising of a Cloud they pass home.
- 62 Yet will they goe a field in the midst of a warme shower.
- 63 How to restore Bees to life.
- 64 The wind causeth many to be drowned.
- 65 The Remedy.
- 66 The last and worst enemy of all.

### The Contents of the eighth Chapter, concerning the Feeding of Bees.

- 1 In seven moneths the Bees spend of the stocke.
- 2 Three sorts of swarmes diversly provided.
- 3 The first sort.
- 4 The second.
- 5 The third onely are to be fed.
- 6 Stockes out of prooffe neuer to be fed.
- 7 Try your swarmes in Virgo.
- 8 What quantity of Honie is requisite.
- 9 Try againe in Pisces or Aries.
- 10 The Bees food.
- 11 Private feeding.
- 12 Carelesse feeding is staruing.
- 13 Publike feeding.
- 14 The first time of feeding.
- 15 The second time of feeding.
- 16 The third time of feeding.

### The Contents of the ninth Chapter, concerning the Remouing of Bees.

- 1 Five things to be auoided in remouing Bees.
- 2 Remoue aboauies in faire weather.
- 3 Not in Winter.
- 4 Nor in Summer.

- 5 The Autumn and Spring are fit times for remouing.
- 6 Libra the best month in all the yeere.
- 7 When to remoue a swarme.
- 8 The time of the day, and manner of remouing.
- 9 The vsuall manner of remouing.
- 10 Which is fit for poore stalls.
- 11 How a good stall is to be carried.
- 12 How a bad.
- 13 What to doe when they are brought home.
- 14 And what when they are seated.

### The Contents of the tenth Chapter.

#### Part. 1. concerning the taking of the Combs.

- 1 The first kinde of Vindemiation.
- 2 The best time for killing Bees.
- 3 What stalls are to be taken.
- 4 The manner of killing Bees.
- 5 Sundry meanes to kill Bees.
- 6 The Bees being dead, bouse the Hiue.
- 7 The second kinde of Vindemiation.
- 8 The time and manner of Drining Bees.
- 9 This Drining of Bees vnprofitable.
- 10 The Honie taken is little and naught.
- 11 And the Bees driuen, few and poore.
- 12 Another kinde of drining.
- 13 At two times.
- 14 Drining in Virgo.
- 15 The manner of drining in Virgo.
- 16 How to helpe those driuen Bees that want.
- 17 Drining in Pisces.
- 18 How to reuiue those that are chilled in drining.
- 19 A third kinde of Vindemiation.
- 20 Exsection used at two times.
- 21 What part to be exsected is vncertaine.
- 22 Exsection ancient, but not profitable.
- 23 Neither first.
- 24 Nor second.
- 25 Specially for our Country.

#### Part 2. concerning the trying of Honie and Wax, and the making of Methe.

- 1 The Combes to be diuided into three parts.
- 2 Necessary Instruments being first provided.
- 3 The dressing of the first part for Honie in two shoots.

4 The



- 4 The first shoot for fine ordinary Honie.
- 5 Or for Virgin-Honie, which is mo<sup>r</sup> fine.
- 6 Two sorts of Virgin Honie.
- 7 Corne-Honie got out by water or fire.
- 8 The second shoot for course Honie.
- 9 The dressing of the first part in one shoot.
- 10 The vulgar Honie grossly handled.
- 11 The working of Honie, and how to helpe it.
- 12 Divers Countries yeeld diuers kinds of Honie.
- 13 How to know good Honie.
- 14 Good Honie with standing waxeth hard and white.
- 15 The best of the Honie is in the bottome.
- 16 The dressing of the second part for Meth.
- 17 How to make the Meth-liquor in two shoots.
- 18 Two sorts of Hydromel, Mede and Methaglen.
- 19 When the liquor is strong enough for Mede.
- 20 What proportion of water to Honie.
- 21 How and how long the Must must be boiled.
- 22 The receipt of Spices.
- 23 How the Must is to be used when it is boiled.
- 24 The making of Methaglen.
- 25 The Queenes Methaglen.
- 26 The dressing of the third part for Wax.
- 27 First boile it with water.
- 28 Then straine it by pressing.
- 29 Next make the Wax into Balls.
- 30 Last of all melt it and cast it in a mould.
- 31 And keepe the cake from cracking.
- 32 How to know good Wax.

### Part 3. concerning the vertues of Honie, Meth, and Wax.

- 1 The properties and vertues of Honie.
- 2 Against both outward and inward griefes.
- 3 For whom Honie is best.
- 4 English Honie.

- 5 Too much beate unbolusant.
- 6 The different operations of two kinds of Honie.
- 7 Two waies to clarifie honey.
- 8 The quintessence of Honey.
- 9 The vertues of it.
- 10 The making of it.
- 11 The vertue of Honie in Confection.
- 12 Marmalade made of honie.
- 13 Marshpane.
- 14 Preserues.
- 15 Conserues.
- 16 Syrups.
- 17 Honie to be preferred before Sugar.
- 18 Honey good in outward Medicines.
- 19 A salve for an old sore.
- 20 An other.
- 21 The properties and vertues of Mede and Methaglen.
- 22 Meth much used of the ancient Brittaines.
- 23 Whence Meth and Methaglen haue their name.
- 24 The properties and vertues of natural Wax.
- 25 Artificiall Wax.
- 26 To make white Wax.
- 27 To make red Wax.
- 28 To make greene Wax.
- 29 Oile of Wax.
- 30 The vertues of it.
- 31 The making of Oile of Wax.
- 32 The vertue of Wax in compound medicines.
- 33 A Cerecloth.
- 34 A Cerecloth to refresh the Sinceres and Muscles.
- 35 A Cerecloth to comfort the stomacke.
- 36 A Cerecloth for the wormes.
- 37 A Salve for a greene wound.
- 38 An other.

# THE FEMININE MONARCHIE,

OR  
The Historie of B E E S.

CHAP. I.

*Of the Nature and properties of Bees, and of  
their Queene.*



Mong all the Creatures which  
our bountifull God hath made  
for the vse and seruice of man,  
in respect of great profit with  
small cost, of their vbiqutic or  
being in all Countreys, and of  
their continuall labour and  
comly order, the Bees are most  
to be admired.

For first with the provision  
of a Hiue and some little care  
and attendance, which need be no hindrance to other busi-  
nesse, but rather a delightfull recreation amid the same; they  
bring in store of sweet delicacies, most hole some both for  
meat and medicine, *Fructus apum ab omnibus desideratur &  
queritur: nec pro persanarum diuersitate discernitur, sed indis-  
creta sui gratia regibus pariter ac mediocribus equali suavisita-  
te dulcescit: nec solum voluptati, sed etiam saluti est.* And an  
other saith, *Mille ad usus vite laborem tolerant & opera con-  
ficiunt*: as they well know, who know the rare vertues of  
Honie and Waxe: a taste whereof I will giue you in the last  
chapter.

B

Secondly,

*Bees yeeld great  
profit with small  
cost.*

Ambrosius  
Hexamer. l. 3. c. 21.

Plin. nat. hist.  
l. 11. c. 5.



2.  
Every Countrey  
fit for Bees.

3.  
Bees abhorre  
idlenesse.

Plin. nat. hist.  
LII. c. 5.

4.  
Bees haue a Com-  
mon-wealth.

Nat. hist. li. II.  
c. 5.

5.  
Their working,  
watching, fight-  
ing, dwelling,  
dyeing, wealth, and  
young ones are all  
in common.

Arist. hist.  
anim. lib. 9.  
cap. 40.

Ambr. Hex. lib.  
5. cap. 21. & Ba-  
fil. Hexam. Ho-  
mil. 8.

6.  
Bees abtaine toy-  
all to their Soue-  
raigne.

V. Prefat.  
Virg. Georg.  
V. c. 7. 8. 27. &  
42.

Secondly, whereas *non omnis fert omnia tellus*, some Coun-  
treys yeeldeth one fruit, some an other; some beareth one  
graine, some an other; some breedeth one kinde of Cattle,  
some an other; there is no ground (of what nature soeuer it  
be, whether it be hot or cold, wet or dry, hill or dale, wood-  
land or champian, meddow, pasture, or arable: in a word,  
whether it be battle or barren) which yeeldeth not matter  
for the Bee to worke vpon.

And thirdly, in their labour and order at home and a-  
broad they are so admirable, that they may be a patterne vn-  
to men, both of the one and of the other. For vnlesse they  
be let by weather, weaknesse, or want of matter to worke on,  
their labour neuer ceaseth. In admiration whereof, one saith,  
*Quos efficacia industriæq; tanta comparemus nervos? Quas vi-  
res? Quos ratione medicus fidius viros?* And for their order, it  
is such, that they may well bee said to haue a Common-  
wealth, since all that they doe is in common, without any  
priuate respect. *Nihil norunt nisi commune*: They worke for  
all, they watch for all, they fight for all. In their priuate quar-  
rels, when they are from the Hiue or common treasury, how-  
soeuer you vse them, they will not resist, if by any meanes  
they can get away. *Cum ruri sint, nec sibi invicem, nec ullis  
alijs nocent; at vero apud suos atque pugnare acerrime*. Their  
dwelling and dyer are common to all alike: they haue like  
common care both of their wealth and young ones. *Sola in  
omni genere animantium communem omnibus sobolem habeat,  
unam omnes incolunt mansionem, unius patrie claudantur limi-  
ne, in commune omnibus labor, communis cibus, communis ope-  
ratio, communis usus, & fructus est*. And all this vnder the  
gouernment of one Monarch, of whom about all things  
they haue a principall care and respect, louing, reuerencing,  
and obeying her v: in all things.

*Præterea regem non sic Ægyptus & ingens  
Lydia, nec populi Parthorum aut Medus Hydaspes  
Observant: rege incolumi mens omnibus una est:  
Amisso rupere fidem; constructaq; mella  
Diripere ipsa, v: & crates solvere fauorum:  
Ille operum custos, illum admirantur; & omnes*

Circumstant

*Circumstant fremittu denso, stipantq, frequentes,  
Et saepe attollunt humeris, & corpora bello  
Obiectant, pulchramq, petunt per vulnera mortem.*

If she goe forth to solace her selfe, (as sometime she will) many of them attend her, guarding hir person before and behind; they which come forth before her, euer now and then returning, and looking backe, and making withall an extraordinary noise, as if they spake the language of the Knight Marshals men, and so away they flye together, and anone in like manner they attend her backe againe. This I may say, because I haue seene it: although the Philosopher be of another minde: *Reges*, saith he, *nunquam foris visuntur, nisi cum migratur*. If by hir voyce she bid them goe, they swarme: if

Hist. an. l. 9.  
cap. 40.

being abroad she dislike the weather, or lighting-place, they quickly returne home againe: while she cheereth them to battaile they fight, v: while she is well, they are cheerefull about their worke; if she droope and dye, they will neuer after enioy their home, but either languish there till they be dead too, or yelding to the Robbers, v: fly away with them v:

Vid. c. 7. n. 35.

V. c. 7. n. 27.

V. c. 7. n. 42.

Nat. hist. l. 17.  
c. 17.

*Rege mortuo moeret plebs ignava, non cibos conuehit, non procedit, tristi tantum marmure glomeratur circa corpus eius.*

But if they haue many Princes, as when two flye away with one swarme, or when two swarmes are hied together; they will not be quiet till one of the be cassied: which sometime they bring downe that euening to the mantle, v. where you may finde her couered with a little heape of Bees: otherwise the next day they carie her forth either dead or deadly wounded. Concerning which matter, I will here relate one memorable experiment. Two swarmes being put together, the Bees on both sides, as their manner is, made a murmuring noise, as being discontented with the suddain congreffe of Strangers: but knowing wel that the more the merrier, the safer, the warmer, yea, and the better prouided; they were quickly made friends. And hauing agreed which Queene should reigne, and which should die, three or foure Bees brought one of them downe betweene them, pulling and haling her as if they were leading her to execution: which I by chance perceiving, got hold of her by the wings, and with much adoe

Bees endure no  
gouernment, but  
a Monarchie.

V. c. 5. n. 46. &  
47.

A memorable  
experiment.



“ tooke her from them. After a while (to see what would  
 “ come of it) I put her into the Hiue againe : no sooner was she  
 “ among them, but the tumult began afresh, greater then be-  
 “ fore, and presently they fell together by the eares, fiercely  
 “ fighting and killing one another, for the space of more then  
 “ an houre together : and by no meanes would cease, vntill the  
 “ poore condemned Queene was brought forth slaine and  
 “ laid before the doore. Which done, the strife presently en-  
 “ ded, and the Bees agreed well together.

Sometime when one swarme is put to another, though they do not fight, yet will they not agree of their choice in two or three daies, keeping their Queenes close on both sides. But then all this while they neuer be at quiet day nor night, nor once offer to work, vntill one of them being deposed, they be vnited in the other. *Vide plura super hac re c. 5. n. 74. 75. 76.*

Likewise if the old Queene bring forth many Princes (as she may haue six or seuen, yea sometime halfe a score or more, which superfluitie nature affoordeth for more suretie, in case some miscarrie) then, lest the multitude of Rulers should distract the vnstable Commons into factions, within two daies after the last swarme, yea sometime (when vnkinde weather keepeth him in ouer long) even before he come forth, you shall finde the superfluous Princes dead before the Hiue: I haue taken eight of them vp together brought out of one hiue, when two were alreadie gone forth with their swarmes. For the Bees abhorre as well Polyarchie, as Anarchie, God hauing shewed in them vnto men, an expresse patterne of A PERFECT MONARCHIE, THE MOST NATURAL AND ABSOLVTE FORME OF GOVERNMENT.

*Οὐκ ἄρα δὸν πολυκοιρανίῃ, εἰς κείρανός ἐστι.*

Hom. Il. α.

9.  
The description  
of the Queene-  
Bee.

The Queene is a faire and itately Bee, differing from the vulgar both in shape and colour : hir backe is all ouer of a brighter browne : hir belly even from the top of hir fangs, to the tip of hir traine, is of a sad yellow, somewhat deeper then the richest gold. Shee is longer then a hony-Bee, by one third part, that is, almost an inch long : shee is also bigger then a hony-Bee, but not so bigge as a Drone, although somewhat longer : hir head proportionable, but  
 that

that it is more round then the little Bees, by reason hir  
 fangs be shorter : hir tongue not halfe so long as theirs :  
 for whereas they gather with the one Nectar, with the  
 other Ambrosia ; v. shee hath no need to vse either, be-  
 ing to be maintained, as other Princes, by the labour of  
 hir subiects : hir wings of the same size with a small Bee,  
 and therefore in respect of hir long body, they seeme  
 very short, resembling rather a cloake then a gowne ; for  
 they reach but to the middle of hir traine or nether part : hir  
 legges proportionable, and of the colour of hir belly, but  
 her two hind-legges more yellow : hir nether part so long,  
 and halfe so long as hir vpper part, more picked then a small  
 Bees, hauing in it foure ioynts or partitions, and in each  
 ioynt a golden barre, in stead of those three whitish rings  
 which other Bees haue at their three partitions. The speere  
 she hath is but little, and not halfe so long as the other Bees :  
 which, like a Kings sword, is borne rather for shew and au-  
 thority, then for any other vse. For it belongeth to hir sub-  
 iects as well to fight for her, as to prouide for her. Plinie wri-  
 teth thus doubtingly of it : *Non constat inter authores Rex  
 nullumne solus habeat aculeum, majestate tantum armatus, an  
 dederit eum quidem natura, sed usum ejus illi tantum negave-  
 rit: illud constat imperatorem aculeo non uti.* But Aristotle  
 doth truly approue the later opinion, as certaine : *Reges acu-  
 leos habent, sed non utuntur. Quocirca carere eos aculeis non-  
 nulli existimant.* Plinie describeth them thus, *Omni-  
 bus forma semper egregia, & duplo quam ceteris major, penna breui-  
 res, crura recta, ingressus celsior, in fronte macula quodam  
 diadema candicans: Multum etiam nitore à vulgo differunt.*  
 If you desire to see this stately Prince, read cap. 5. n. 34. The  
 breeding of her you may see c. 4. n. 18.

Besides their Soueraigne, the Bees haue also subordinate  
 Gouvernours and Leaders, not vnfitly resembling Captaines  
 and Coronels of Souldiors : For difference from the rest  
 they beare for their crest a tuft or tossell, in some coloured  
 yellow, in some murrey, in manner of a plume ; whereof  
 some turne downward like an Ostrich-feather, others stand  
 vpright like a Hearn-top. And of both sorts some are greater  
 and

V. c. 6. n. 17.

Nat. hist. L. 11.  
 cap. 17.

Hist. an. L. 5. cap.  
 21.

Nat. hist. L. 11. c.  
 16.

10.  
 Bees haue also in-  
 ferious Gouver-  
 nors or Captains.

11.  
 Which are known  
 by peculiar  
 marks.



Nat. hist. li. ii.  
ca. 7.

Plin. Nat. hist.  
li. ii. c. 5.

Vir. Geor. 4.

12.  
Two sorts of Bees.  
Hist. li. 5. c. 22.

Hist. li. 9. c. 40.

Nat. hist. li. ii.  
ca. 18.

and some lesse, as if there were degrees of those dignities among them. In all other respects they are like to the vulgar. These I thinke are they that *Plinie* meaneth, where he saith, *Circa regem satellites quidam, lictoresque assidue custodes authoritatis.* In lesse then a quarter of an houre you may see three or foure of them come forth of a good stall; but chiefly in *Gemini*, before their continuall labour haue worne these ornaments. So that he might well say, *Reipublicam habent, consilia, ac duces.* All which hee that seriously considereth, must with admiration acknowledge that singular wisdom, order, and government in them, which in no other creature, man onely excepted, (if yet to be excepted) is to be found: whence some haue inferred a farther matter.

*His equidem signis atque hec exempla sequuntur.*

*Esse apibus partem diuinae mentis, & haustus*

*Aethereos dixere.*

*Aristotle* maketh two sorts of Bees, the one (which is best) short, diuers coloured, and round; the other long, like vnto waspes. *Optimum genus apum quae breues, variae, & in rotunditatem compactiles; secunda quae longa, & vespis similis.* And in another place he putteth a difference betweene wilde and tame: saying, *Differunt inter se apes parentibus natae urbanis, & quae rustico montanoque victu educatis prodierint: sunt enim haesylvestres horridiores aspectu, & iracundiores, & minores; sed opere & labore praestantiores.* Whom *Plinie* followeth almost verbatim: saying, *Apes sunt etiam rusticae sylvestresque, horrida aspectu, multo iracundiores, sed opere ac labore praestantiores. Urbanarum duo genera: optima breues, variae, & in rotunditatem compactiles; deteriores longae, & quibus similitudo vesparum, etiamnum deterrime ex his pilosa.* But these differences my experience hath not found: neither doe I see how they can be; seeing the swarmes of tame Bees doe often flie into trees, and so become wilde; and the swarmes of wilde Bees are not seldome found, and put into hiues. Indeed the wilde are more angry then the tame: but that is because they are lesse vsed to the company of men. Moreouer, there is some difference in the bignesse of Bees: For they that are loaded seeme greater and longer then those that

that are leere: also the Nymphs, v: when they come first abroad, are not growne to their full bignesse which afterward they haue, and the old ones doe wither, and become little againe. v: Likewise in these three ages their colours also do varie: for in their middle age they are browne, whereas before they are more pale, v. and at the last they turne whitish againe. v. But these are differences of Bees in the same stall, and not of one stall from an other, since these diuers sorts are in euery stall.

V. 4. n. 20.

V. n. 56.

V. 4. n. 17.

V. n. 56.

The seuerall parts of a Bee haue their seuerall vses.

Hir horns growing in the middle of hir forehead, with two ioynts, one close to the head, the other towards the middle, so that she can put them forth at full length when shee will, and draw them in againe close to hir head; are the proper *organum* of the sense of feeling; by which, with the least touch, the Bee sodainely senteth any tangible object: and therefore they serue to giue warning in the darke, and when she is busie, of any obuious thing quicke or dead that might offend her.

13.  
The parts of a  
Bee.

14.  
Hir hornes.

Hir two cheekes being transparent, like Lanthorne, doe serue, though immouable, in stead of Eyes: through which the species of things visible are conueied to the comon Sense.

For gathering hir prouision, shee hath two instruments, hir fangs and hir tongue: hir fangs in fashion of a paire of pincers hang not, as the iawes of other things, one ouer an other, but side-way one against the other, as is most conuenient for hir vses.

15.  
Hir eyes.

16.  
Hir fangs.

Hir tongue is of that length, that hir mouth cannot hold it: but being doubled between hir fangs vnder hir chinne, it reacheth to the necke. It is diuided into three parts: whereof the two outmost serue as a case to couer the third, which being the chiefe, the Bee in hir worke putteth forth beyond the other, and draweth in againe as shee will. And this third part is likewise parted into three, so that there are siue in all.

17.  
Hir tongue, with  
the parts of it.

To set these instruments on worke, Nature hath furnished her with 4. wings, which swifter then the East-winde, carry her into all the foure coasts of the world, and thence with

18.  
Hir foure wings.



with hir precious lading beare her backe againe, vntill hir incessant labour hath worne them out. v. n. 56.

19.  
Hir feete.

Hir rough and dew-clawed feet apt to take hold at the first touch are in number sixe, that shee may stand fast vpon foure, while she vseth the other two to wipe hir eyes, hir wings, hir tongue, or any other part, and to conuay the gathering of hir fangs to hir thighs. v. c. 6. n. 18.

20.  
Hir two weapons

21.  
Hir fangs commonly used against insecta.

For hir defence she is doubly weaponed. Hir fangs she vseth when she is not much angry, against all *insecta*, as other Bees, Drones, Wasps, &c. therewith pinching and holding them commonly by the legs or wings, and sometime by the hornes: but this is rather a chiding, then a fighting, and a warning, rather then a punishment; though withall sometime she bend her speere against them, as if shee would kill and slay.

22.  
Hir speere sometime.

V. n. 31.

V. c. 7. n. 36.

V. c. 7. n. 49.

Nat. hist. li. 11.  
c. 13.

23.  
Stinging present death to Bees.

Hir speere she is very loth to vse, if by any other means she can shift hir enemy, as knowing how dangerous it is to hir selfe: for if she chance therewith to strike any hard part, as the brest or shoulder, shee is enforced to leaue hir speere behinde her, and so she killeth and is killed v. with the same stroke. Yet when the Bees are very angry; as namely when they are assaulted with a multitude of robbers at once, v. or when in the spring a hungry stall forsaking his owne home presseth into their hieue, v. they fall sodainly vpon them with their poysoned speeres (*Apibus natura cuspides dedit, & quidam venenatas*) but then they make short worke. For by that time they haue put vp their weapons, some die presently: others losing the vse of their wings tumble on the ground like mad things, vntill in a while they lose their liues too: others when they are wounded, runne away in great haste (as hauing their errand) either drawing on the ground one or more of their legs, or doubling their nether part toward the ground, or turning the same awry to the one side or the other: but as many as are stricken, within an houre after will not bee able to wag out of the place, and within two or three at the most, they will be quite dead. I haue looked on, while thus they quickly cut off a whole stall, and among the rest, making then no difference, they spared not the

the Queene her selfe. After this manner doe they deale with the Drones at the time of the yeere, when they will not otherwise be beaten away. v. c. 4. n. 24.

But their speares or stings they vse chiefly against things of other sort, as men, beasts, and fowles: which haue outwardly some offensive excrement, as haire or feathers, the touch whereof prouoketh them to sting: although such stinging be alwaies mortall to themselves (as anone is shewed. v.) For the skinne hauing receiued the sting, holdeth it so fast, that when they would be gone, they leaue both it and part of their entrails which are fastned to it. *Aculeum apibus natura dedit ventri confertum*. If they light vpon Poultry, although their desire bee to the quicke, if they can quickly come at it; yet will they put forth their speares as soone as they touch the feather: and if they chance to hit the hard part thereof, the sting sticketh fast, as in the skinne; and therefore Goose-wings are naught to be vsed in the hiving of Bees.

Likewise, if they light vpon the haire of your head or beard, (saue onely when they come home laden, or the weather is cold) they will sting, if they can reach the skinne; although Wooll and Woollen doe not offend them: and if being otherwise angered, they strike their speares in Woollen, they can easily pull them out againe. But the nap of new Fustian displeaseth them, because it seemeth hairy; and the stuffe is so fast, that it holdeth the sting. Wherefore such apparell is not fit among Bees: as also Leather in Gloues or otherwise, for assoone as they touch it they will strike, if they be any whit mooued, and their speares they cannot recover againe. Veluet in facing of hats or else where, doth anger them as much as any thing, making them strike assoone as they touch it: but it hath not power to hold their speare.

When they are angry, their aime is most commonly at the head, and chiefly about the eyes, as knowing that there they may do most harme, for that part swelleth most and longest: and yet I neuer heard that any euer stung the verie eye, as if they were forbidden to touch that tender part. But the bare

C

24.  
The speares commonly used against other creatures.

25.  
Haire and feathers cause the Bees to sting.

V. n. 31.  
Nat. hist. l. xii. c. 18.

26.  
Wooll and woollen doe not offend them.

27.  
Fustian, Leather, and Veluet naught among Bees.

28.  
The Bees in their anger aime at the head.



29.  
When any is stung,  
the company must  
be gone.

30.  
The Bees haue the  
worst when they  
sing.

31.  
They lose their  
sting and entrals,  
and consequently  
their liues.

Virg. Georg.  
Hist. an. l. 9.  
c. 40.

32.  
The speere of it  
selfe pierceth dee-  
per when the Bee  
is gone.

33.  
How to preuent  
the paine and  
swelling.

34.  
Nothing but time  
can cure their  
stinging.

hand that is not very hairie, they will seldome or neuer sting vnlesse they be much offended.

When you are stung, or any in the company, yet though a Bee haue striken but your clothes, specially in hot weather, you were best be packing as fast as you can: for the other Bees smelling the rancke sauour of the poyson cast out with the sting, will come about you as thicke as haile: so that fitly and lively did he expresse the multitude and fiercenelle of his enemies, that said, *They came about me like Bees*. Then is there no way to appease them but flight: the more you resist, the fiercer they are. They are like vnto incorrigible shrewes: there is no dealing with them but by patience: though when they sting they are sure to haue the worst. For the wound endangereth neither life nor limb: two nights sleep will take away the swelling, and two minutes the paine, (vnlesse it be in very rheumaticke or humorous bodies: of which sort I haue knowne some so swollen and disfigured with that little stroke, that you could scarce know them by their fauour in fise or sixe daies after.) But on the other side, whereas the Waspe, Horner, and Dorre, doe sting often without any hurt to themselves; the Bee neuer stingeth but once, and then she leaueth hir speere and entrals, more or lesse behinde her, *Animamq; in vulnere ponit*. (*Interunt que percusserint, quoniam sine intestini eruptione aculeum eximi non potest.*) For within foure and twentie houres after, or, if much of hir entrals come forth with the sting, within halfe that time, she dieth. But the speere retaining life when the Bee is gone, if it be not presently pulled out, will worke it selfe into the flesh vp to the hard end, and so cause the paine and swelling to be both greater and longer. Therefore when you are stung, instantly wipe off the Bee, sting and all, and wash the place with your spittle: so shall you preuent both paine and swelling, which otherwise nothing but time can cure: for the poyson is so subtile, that it quickly pierceth the flesh, and the wound so little, that no Antidote can follow after: and yet I haue heard commended for a remedie, the iuyce of Houseleeke, of Rue, of Mallowes, of Iuye, of a Marigold leaf,

leafe, of Holyhock and Vineger, of Salt and Vineger, and  
diuers other things. *Id malua peculiare est, ut imposita*  
*ictibus vesparum & apum dolores leuat.* Fern. Meth. l. 6.  
cap. 4. *Stercus vaccinum vesparum ictus sanat, & indito*  
*aceto tumores digerit.* Fern. Meth. l. 5. cap. 27. Rue drunken  
with Wine, or rather with Hydromel, or the leaues stamped  
with Honie and Salt, and laid to the wound, is good a-  
gainst stinging of Bees, Waspes, Hornets, and Scorpions;  
Dodoens, l. 2. c. 83.

*Verum hoc mihi præ ceteris probatur remedium. Vt pri-*  
*um se quis ictum senserit, aculeum adhuc epidermidi inhe-*  
*rentem cum ipsa ape instanter abstergat (nam si paulisper sin-*  
*tur, dum veram cutem penetraverit; vehementior inde, diu-*  
*turnior, & sanatu difficilior evadet tum dolor tum tumor)*  
*dein, quam mox reddi potest, propria urina malva folia*  
*sapinscula proluant, dum subsequens hoc comparetur empla-*  
*strum. R. Cardui Benedicti virentis contriti M. l. Ovi albumen*  
*quasi in oleum coagitatum: misce, fiat emplastrum, quod lini*  
*retinentis impositum, vulnere lenteo alligetur: ubi aruerit,*  
*recens repone: sed vulnus nequaquam fricetur.*

But if thou wilt haue the fauour of thy Bees that they  
sting thee not, thou must auoid such things as offend them:  
thou must not be (1) vnchaste or (2) vncleanly: for impu-  
ritie and fluttishnesse (themselues being most chaste and  
neat,) they vtterly abhorre: thou must not come among  
them (3) smelling of sweat, or hauing a stinking breath,  
caused either through eating of Leekes, Onions, Garlecke,  
and the like; or by any other meanes: the noisomnesse  
whereof is corrected with a cup of Beere: and therefore it is  
not good to come among them before you haue drunke:  
thou must not be giuen to (4) surfeiting and drunkennesse:  
thou must not come (5) puffing and blowing vnto them,  
neither hastily stirre among them, nor \* violently defend thy  
selfe when they seeme to threaten thee; but softly mouing  
thy hand before thy face, gently put them by: and lastly,

ceining it by the strong smell of the humour (for she smelleth then as if she had stung, v. 29.) will be so eager vpon reuenge, that by no meanes can they be pacified, vtill they haue  
the field.

What things the  
Bee-master must  
auoid.

\* Which not  
onely increa-  
seth their an-  
ger, (specially  
in hot weather,  
v. 2. 38.) but in-  
citeth others  
to take their  
parts: and if  
by striuing and  
striking you  
chance to kill  
one, the Bees  
presently per-



36.  
The six proper-  
ties of a Bee-ma-  
ster.

37.  
Safer to walke,  
then to stand a-  
mong Bees.

38.  
The fittest time to  
stirre about Bees.

39.  
In the heat of the  
day they are most  
angry.

40.  
How to be armed  
when the Bees  
are angry.

thou must be (6) no Stranger vnto them. In a word, thou must be chaste, cleanly, sweet, sober, quiet, and familiar: so will they loue thee, and know thee from all other.

At any time, when nothing hath angered them, one may boldly walke along by them: but if hee stand still before them within the space of a pearch in the heat of the day, it is maruell but one or other spying him from the Hive, will haue a cast at him.

If you haue any thing to doe about your huiues, the fittest time is in the morning, when the Bees are new gone abroad; and in the euening before they be come in: for then the weather being coole, and the company few at home, they are not so apt to be quarrelling, vnlesse they be much prouoked. Likewise at other times of the day, when the weather is cold, wet, or windie, they are patient enough.

But about noone in hot weather, and specially when they haue tasted of the Hony-dewes, they are soone angry, and very eager.

But whensoever you haue occasion to trouble their patience, or to come among them being troubled, it is better to stand vpon your guard, then to trust to their gentleness. For the safeguard of your face (which they haue most mind vnto) prouide a purf-hood made of course bouldering, to be drawn and knit about your collar: which, for more safetie, is to bee lined against the eminent parts with Woollen-cloth. First, cut a peece about an inch and a halfe broad, and halfe a yard long, to reach round by the temples and fore-head from one eare to the other: which being sowed in his place, ioyn vnto it two short peeces of the same bredth vnder the eyes, for the balls of the cheekes: and then set another peece about the bredth of a shilling against the top of the nose. In stead of this, you may vse a Cypres Band or a Boulter, hauing a Handkerchiefe betweene your fore-head and it, to beare it out from the skinne, and your hat on your head to hold it fast. And if they be so earnest that you feare stinging your hands, put on a paire of woollen cuffes or gloues. When you haue on this Helmet and Gantlets, as a man armed at all points, you may boldly deale with them, being out of  
the

the danger of their poysoned speares. At other times when they are not angried, a little peece halfe a quarter broad to cover the eyes and parts about them, may serue: for then, though it be in the heat of the day, vnlesse they may strike about the eyes, they care not to strike at all.

Vnto Cattell which haue not the reason by flight or otherwise to saue themselves, they are more dangerous. A Horse in the heat of the day looking ouer a hedge, on the other side whereof was a stall of Bees, while hee stood nodding with his head, as his manner is, because of the Flies, the Bees fell vpon him and killed him. Likewise, I heard of a Teece that stretching against a hedge, ouerthrew a stall on the other side, and so two of the Horses were stung to death. I doubt not but through negligence many such mischances haue happened else-where. For this thing hath beene long since obserued by that great Philosopher. *Necant (saith he) vel maxima animalia situ sui aculei: iam equus occisus ab apibus est.*

41  
Bees dangerous to  
Cattell.

And such are the sorts of Bees, with their integrall parts. Among which, though there do not appear those outward Organa of senting which other Animals haue, nor is seene in the head that inward principall part, which is the fountaine and seat of all Senses, Phantasie, and Memorie; yet haue they the Senses themselves, both outward and inward: which their subtrill and actiue spirits doe excite and quicken, for the works of their curious Art and singular Vertues. *Quamvis non sint membra quæ, velat carina, sensus inuebant; esse tamen his auditum, alfactum, gustatum, cetera prætere natura dâna, solertiam, animum, artem quis facile crediderit. Creat Deus minima corpore acuta sensu animantia: ut maiori attentione stupeamus agilitatem muscæ volantis, quam magnitudinem iumentæ gradientis.*

42  
The Bees senses.  
\* Cerebrum commune sentiendi principium. Fer. Phil. 5. c. 14.

Nat. hist. L. 1. c. 4.

Augustin. de Genesi ad literam. lib. 3.

Of all the five Senses their sight seemeth to be weakest: & weaker when they come home loaded, then when they are leere: and being loaded weaker on foot, then when they are flying. If, when they come home loaded, they light beside the doore, they will goe vp and downe seeking for it, as if they were in the darke: and vnlesse by chance they hit vpon

43.  
Their sight dim.



it, they must flye againe before they can finde it. As many as fall beside the stoole when it waxeth darke, ten to one they lye abroad all night: yea, if at such time being troubled by any thing they come forth from the stoole, though then they be fresh and lustie, they will leape vp and downe, runne and flie to and fro, till they be wearie; but by no meanes can they finde the way in againe. And therefore it is that when they flie abroad, they take such paines at the doore in rubbing and wiping their glazen eies, that they may the better discern their way forth and backe.

44.  
Their smelling  
very quicke.

V. c. 6. n. 41.

Lucret. l. 4.

But their smelling is excellent, whereby when they flie aloft in the aire, they will quickly perceiue any thing vnder them that they like, as Honie, Rozin, or Tarre, though it be couered. As soone as the Honie-dew is fallen, they presently winde it, though the Oakes that receiue it v. be a farr off: which the Poet, speaking of the excellencie of some creatures in this sense before others, doth thus expresse,

— Ideoq; per auras

*Mellis apes, quamvis longè, ducuntur odore.*

V. 4. n. 30.

And by this sense they finde out any strange Bee, which is not otherwise to be knowne from their owne company, and that in the darke Hiue: where, when they are disposed, they will by the same meanes cull out the Drones, yea and pull out the Cephens v. that are shut vp in the cells, not meddling with any of their owne Sex.

45.  
Hearing and feeling.

Hist. an. l. 9.  
cap. 40.

Their hearing and feeling are verie quicke. If you touch their Hiue but lightly, or the stoole, or the ground neere it; they presently perceiuing it, make a generall noise: although Aristotle doubt whether they heare, or not. *Quamquam incertum est an audiant.* But if they did not heare, to what purpose is that musicke made in the Hiuies, before the swarming? v. c. 5. n. 28. and in the battaile, vid. c. 7. n. 34. or his tinging of swarmes to make them come downe, v. inc. 5. n. 37.

46.  
Tasting.

And of their fift sense I make no question, sithens they are vsed to things of so different tastes: although there may seeme the lesse vse of it, because their smelling is so perfect.

And

And such are their outward senses. The inward qualities of their minds are farre more excellent. Their curious art and workmanship to be admired rather then imitated of men, See cap. 6.

Their singular vertues are no lesse admirable.

In valour and magnanimitie they surpasse all creatures: there is nothing so huge and mightie that they feare to set vpon, and when they haue once begunne, they are inuincible: for nothing can make them yeeld but death: so great hearts doe they carrie in so little bodies v. In private wrongs and iniuries done to their persons (for which cause men will soonest quarrell) they are very patient: but in defence of their Prince and Common-wealth they doe most readily enter the field,

— Et corpora bello

*Obiectant, pulchramq; petunt per vulnera mortem. v.*

Whereby appeareth their singular fortitude, no lesse then their prudence doth in the gouernment of their Common-weale v. beside which, their wisdome and knowledge in other matters is verie much: as of their enemies, of their fellowes and friends, of the Drones, when they haue too many, and when they neede them not at all, also of the times and seasons of the yeare. Their wit and dexteritie, as well in gathering as in working their sweetes, is inimitable. v. Moreouer, as skilful Astronomers, they haue fore-knowledge of the weather. *Predominant enim ventos imbresq; & tunc se plerq; continent testis.* Item, *Prasagiunt apes & hyemem & imbres, v.* And in stormy and windie weather, it is a wonder to see what cunning those that are abroad doe vse to shift the wind when they come home laden: how they flie alow by the ground, among the bushes, in the lanes, and lee-sides of the hedges. *Iuxta terram volant in aduerso flatu v. pribus heberato.* But aboue all, one excellent skill they haue, which the most excellent femals, though much they desire it, must yeeld themselves to want: for they know certainly when they breed a male, and when a female: which thing appeareth by this, that they lay their Cephens-seeds in a wide combe by themselves, v. and the Nymph-seedes in the rest, which are of a smaller size. v. So

that

47.

Their vertues

48.

Fortitude:

V. c. 7. n. 37.

Virg.

V. n. 5.

49.

Prudence and knowledge.

V. c. 1. n. 4. 5. 6.

& 7.

V. c. 6.

Nat. hist. li. 11.

c. 10.

Hist. an. l. 9.

c. 40.

V. c. 7. n. 61.

Nat. hist. li. 11.

c. 10.

V. c. 6. n. 10. &

c. 4. n. 19.

V. c. 6. n. 19.



Ambr. Hex. l. 5.  
c. 11.

that what wanteth in the sight of their eyes, is fully suppli-  
ed in the sight of their minde. *Cum sit infirma robore quæ,  
valida est vigore sapientie & amore virtutis.*

And yet I haue read of a greater knowledge then all this:  
How there were Bees so wise and skilfull, as not onely to de-  
scribe a certaine little God a mightie, though he came among  
them in likenesse of a Wafer-cake; but also to build him an  
artificiall Chappell. If I should relate the Storie, all men, I  
know, would not beleue it: notwithstanding, because eu-  
ry man may make some vse of it, you shall haue it.

50.  
A strange tale  
concerning the  
knowledge and  
devotion of Bees.

A certaine simple woman hauing some stals of Bees which  
yeelded not vnto her hir desired profit, but did consume  
and die of the murraine; made hir mone to an other Wo-  
man more simple then hir selfe: who gaue her counsell to  
get a consecrated Host, and put it among them. According  
to whose aduice she went to the Priest to receiue the Host:  
which when she had done, she kept it in her mouth, and be-  
ing come home againe she tooke it out, and put it into one  
of hir Hiues. Whereupon the murraine ceased, and the  
Honie abounded. The Woman therefore lifting up the  
Hiue at the due time to take out the Honie, saw there (most  
strange to be scene) a Chappell built by the Bees, with an  
altar in it, the wals adorned by maruellous skill of Archite-  
cture, with windowes conueniently set in their places: also  
a doore and a steeple with bells. And the Host being laid  
vpon the altar, the Bees making a sweet noise, flew round  
about it.

\* A Gellius, l.  
11. c. 5.

But whether this doe more argue the supernaturall know-  
ledge and skill of the Bees, or the miraculous power of the  
Host, or the spirituall craftinesse of him, whose comming is  
by the working of Satan with all power and signes and ly-  
ing wonders, some scrupulous \* Skeptick may make a que-  
stion: and presuming to examine euery particular circum-  
stance ouer narrowly, will make obiections against the truth  
of the Storie: which, by their leaues, in the behalfe of my  
Authour, I must not spare to answer. First, it may be they  
will obiect that the Host being held so long in the Womans  
mouth, could not choose in that space but melt and marre.  
Indeed,

Indeed, if it did remaine, as it was, a Wafer-cake, this were  
likely enough: but being turned into flesh, the case is alre-  
red. If they shall say that because it was now Honie-haruest,  
at which time good stals, such as this was, are full of Wax  
and Honie, that therefore there could not be roome enough  
for a Chappell with a steeple and bells in it; I answer, that  
this is as weake and simple as the former. For seeing it is  
knowne that a Blacke-smith of *London* did make a Locke and  
a Key so little that a flye could draw it; why should not the  
little Smith of *Norringham*, which doth the worke that no  
man can, frame a little Chappell in a little roome? But then  
perhaps they will reply, if wee grant you this, yet how  
could the Bees flie about the altar in that little Chappell, see-  
ing they are scarce able to flie in so narrow a close roome as  
the emptie hiue? As for that, it may be a mistaking of a word:  
haply the woman said they did but crawle. If they shall  
aske how the woman could see the altar with the Host stan-  
ding in the Chancell, and the Bells hanging in the steeple,  
seeing the waxen walls were not transparent; they may easily  
thinke that the Bees would giue their dame leave to looke in  
at the windowes. And if they shall say that those bells being  
made of such metall would giue but a weake sound, when  
they were rung to Mattins; they must consider the Parishio-  
ners dwelt not farre off. And so I thinke these captious Cri-  
ticks will hold themselves satisfied.

Vnto this Storie my Author immediatly addeth an other,  
like vnto it, and as likely: how certaine Theeues hauing  
stollen the Siluer Box wherein the Wafer-Gods vse to lye,  
and finding one of them there, being loth, belike, that hee  
should lye abroad all night, did not cast him away, but laid  
him vnder a Hiue: whom the Bees acknowledging, aduan-  
ced to an high roome in the Hiue, and there in stead of his  
Siluer boxe, made him another of the whitest Waxe: and  
when they had so done, in worship of him, at set houres  
they sung most sweetly beyond all measure about it: yea the  
owner tooke them at it at midnight, with a light and all.  
Wherewith the Bishop being made acquainted, came thither  
with many others: and lifting vp the Hiue, hee saw there



neare the top a most fine boxe, wherein the Host was laid, and the Quires of Bees singing about it, and keeping watch in the night, as Monkes doe in their Cloisters. The Bishop therefore taking the Host, carried it with the greatest honour into the Church: whither many resorting, were cured of innumerable diseases.

I doubt not, but some incredulous people will quarrell this Storie as well as the former: making question, since the combs in the top of the Hive, are not past halfe an inch one from an other, how there could be roome for a boxe of that bredth that would containe the Host, and then being there, how it might be seene by the Bishop, seeing those spaces are alwaies filled with Bees, and the Storie saith, that they were then singing about it: and therefore perhaps they will suspect the whole Narration, supposing it rather to be an vnadvised device of some idle Monke, which, if he had consulted with them that haue skill among Bees, might haue made his tale more probable. Alledging moreouer, that therefore there is no mention made of any particular person, time, or place, lest the circumstances should disproue the matter it selfe. All which obiections I could as easily answer as the former, if I thought it needfull; But now because some may be as ready to mistrust my relation, as others are to object against the truth of the Stories; I will here in mine owne behalfe for their satisfaction, set them downe in my Authors owne words.

*Cum mulier quadam simplicis ingenij nonnulla apum alvearia possideret, neq; ille redderent expectitum fructum, sed luc quadam tabescentes morerentur; de consilio alterius famine simplicioris, accessit ad sacerdotem perceptura Eucharistiam: quam sumptam tamen ore continuit, domumq; reversa extratam collocavit in uno ex alvearijs. Lues cessavit, mella affluebant. Itaq; suo tempore mulier, apertis, ut mel educeret, alvearijs, vidit (miranda res) exedificatum ab apibus sacellum, constructum altare, parietes miro Architectura artificis suis fenestris appositè suis locis ornatos, ostium, tarrim, cum suis tintinabulis: Eucharistiam vero in altari repositam circumvolabant suavi susurro perstreptentes apes.*

Nam miranda  
canunt, sed  
non credenda  
Poetæ.

The other hereporteth thus. *Quidam fures, ut argenteum vasculum in quo condita erat Eucharistia auferrent. & illam secum rapuerunt: sacratissimum vero C. corpus sub alveari pro-*  
*jectum. Post aliquot dies Dominus alvearia videt apes certis*  
*horis sepius, dimissis operis ad cibos conuehendo, totos esse in*  
*quodam mellifluo concentu edendo. Cumq; fortè de media nocte*  
*exsurrexisset, conspicitur supra alveare illustrissimam lucem,*  
*suauiissimeq; preter omnem modum modulantes apes. Rei no-*  
*uitate inuiscatà, & prorsus admirandà percussus, Deiq; moni-*  
*tu intimo agitatū rem deorsum ad Episcopum. Is plurimis se-*  
*cum assumptis eo se conferens, aperto alveari videt Vasculum*  
*elegantissimum effectum è candidissima cera prope alvearis fa-*  
*sigium, in quo reposita erat Eucharistia, circa illud choros apum*  
*circumsonantes, & exubias agentes. Acceptum igitur Episco-*  
*pū sacramentum maximo cum honore in templum reportauit:*  
*quo multi accedentes ab innumeris sunt morbis curati. Tho-*  
*Boz. de signis Ecclesie. Lib. 14. c. 3.*

In which Storie wee may note, besides the wonderfull knowledge and deuotion of the Bees, an incredible power and vertue also. For this God which they kept and compassed, is said to haue the gift of healing, which others, though of as good a making, we know doe want. The conclusion, which my Author necessarily inferreth hereupon, is better then all the rest. *Ex his necesse est dicamus in Eucharistia verum C. corpus esse.* But if thou wilt grant me that hereby is proued the incredible knowledge and skill of the Bees, for my part I will vrge thee no farther.

In the pleasures of their life, the Bees are so moderate, that perfect temperance seemeth to rest onely in them.

Also, in their owne Common-wealth, they are most iust, not the least wrong or iniurie is offered among them. But indeed I cannot much commend their Iustice towards strangers: for all that they can catch is their owne: vnlesse they may be excused in this respect, that the Bees of diuers hives are at deadly feud, or rather as Kingdomes, that are at defiance one with an other. *v. c. 7. m. 25.*

Their Chastitie is to be admired. *Integritas corporis vir-*  
*ginalis omnibus communis.*

*Lib. 14. c. 3.*  
*Thom. Boz.*  
*de signis Ecclesie.*  
*Lib. 14. c. 3.*

51. Temperance.  
 52. Iustice.

53. Chastitie.  
 Amb. Hex. l. 5.  
 c. 21.



August. de Tri-  
nit. 3.  
Idem de bono  
coniugali.  
Georg.

7. 4. 7. 3. &c.

Generat. an. 1.  
3. c. 10.

54.  
Cleanlinesse.  
Hist. an. 1. 9. cap.  
40.  
Nat. hist. li. 11.  
c. 10.  
Hist. an. 1. 9. c. 40  
Var. 1. 3. c. 15.

55.  
The age of Bees.  
Georg. 4.  
Hist. 1. 5. c. 22.

7. 4. 6. 7. 30.  
Georg. 4.

*Et certe apes semina non coeundo concipiunt. Item, Omnipotens creator apibus prolem sine concubitu dedit.*

*Illum adeo placuisse apibus mirabere morem,*

*Quod non concubitu indulgent, &c.* They ingender not as other living creatures: onely they suffer their Drones v. among them for a season, by whose Masculine virtue they strangely conceive and breed for the preservation of their sweet kinde. Which strange kinde of breeding the Philosopher saith to be apparent vnto sense and reason. *Cum in genere piscinum talis quodam sit generatio nonnullorum, ut sine coitu generent; hoc idem in apibus etiam evenire videtur, quod sensus ratioq; apparens admonet.*

For cleanlinesse and neatnesse, they may be a Mirror to the finest Dames. *Mundissimum omnium hoc animal est.* For neither will they suffer any flutterie within, if they may goe abroad, *Amoluntur omnia e medio, nullaq; inter opera spurcitia jacent;* neither can they endure any vnsavourinesse without nigh vnto them. *Odere fædes odores: Nulla barum affidet in loco inquinato, aut eo quæ male olent.* And for their persons (which are lovely browne) though they be not long about it, yet are they curious in trimming and smoothing them from top to toe, like vnto sober Marrones, which lout as well to goe neat as plaine: pied and garish colours belong to the Waspe, which is good for nothing but to spend and waste.

Anent the age of Bees there are diuers opinions: some thinke that they may live foure or five yeares, yea some six or seven: *Neq; enim plus septima ducitur ætas.*

Aristotle speaketh of a longer time. *Vita apum anni sex, nulla etiam 7. possunt complere: quod si ex ætate 9. aut decem annos duraverit, prosperè actū esse existimatur.* Which opinions are grounded vpon this, that they see a stall sometimes continue so long, before the Bees die altogether. But this continuance is onely by succession: and so might they live in *secula*, if the rottennesse of their combes, the hardnesse of their Honie, & the abundance of noisome stopping v: would suffer them to abide the Hives. *Nam genus immortalæ manet.* But

But the truth is, a Bee is but a yeares Bird, with some advantage.

Which is a long life in comparison of the Silk-wormes, which live but foure moneths; or of the Wasps, which live but five; or of the Drones, which but six.

For the Bees of the former yeare, which vntill Gemini in the next yeare doe looke so youthfully, that you cannot discern them from their full growne Nymphes, which that spring they haue bred; doe from thenceforth change with manifest difference: for the young Bees continue great, full, smooth, browne, well-winged; the old waxe little, withered, rough, whitish, ragged-winged: and withall so feeble, that when they come loaded home, if any thing stand in their way, yea many times, though there be nothing, they fall downe, and being loaded cannot rise againe: and then either a little cold or wet in the day, or the nights dew killeth them: you may daily finde, specially in Cancer and Leo, some dead, some halfe-dead before the Hives, and some alieue and lustie, which yet can neuer rise againe. Some of them will hold out so long, till their wings are more then halfe worne: but by Libra you shall scarce see one of them leaft.

The young Bees, as best able, beare the greatest burdens: for they not onely worke abroad, but also watch and ward at home both early and late: when need is, they hazzard their liues in defence of the rest, they beat away the Drones, and fight with other Bees and Wasps, and assault with their speeres whatsoever else offendeth them, they carrie their dead forth to be buried, and performe all other offices. But the labour of the old ones is onely in gathering, which they will neuer giue ouer, while their wings can beare them: and then when they cease to worke, they will cease also to eat: such enemies are they to idlenesse. And therefore generally they die in their delightfull labour, either in the field or comming home: *Atque animas sub fasce dedere.* Sometimes as well in Summer as Winter v. the Bees take pleasure to play abroad before the Hive, specially those that are in good plight, flying in and out, and about, so thicke,

56.  
The difference  
betweene the  
young Bees and  
old.

57.  
The office of the  
young Bees.

58.  
And of the old.

Ving. 59.  
V. c. 3. 7. 59. 62.

59.  
Bees wont est-  
soonies to play.



Nat. hist. l. i. i.  
C. 20.

60.

They are soone  
killed with cold.

61.

How to revive  
them.

62.

The Bees excel-  
lencies.

and so earnestly, as if they were swarming or fighting: when indeed it is onely to solace themselves: and this chiefly in warme weather, after they haue beene long kept in. *Excitationem interdum solennem habent: spatiatur, in apertis & in altum data, gyris volat ueditis, tum domum redeunt.*

The Bee is by nature very tender, soone chilled and killed with cold, which the Dorre, the Waspe, yea the Moth, the Gnat, and other little flies can endure, and most of all then, when by reason of long restraint, their bellies are over full. The first that faileth in them, when the cold beginneth to preuaile, is their wings: so that they cannot rise to their Hives to helpe themselves by the heat of their fellows. How to recouer them, yea when they are quite dead, See *Cap. 7. n. 63.*

The Bee therefore excelling in many qualities, it is fity said in the Prouerbe,

As	Profitable	} as a Bee.
	Laborious	
	Loiall	
	Swift	
	Nimble	
	Quicke of sent	
	Bold,	
	Cunning	
	Chaste	
Neat		
Browne		
Chillie		

63.

Bees a chiefe ex-  
emplar of the di-  
uine power and  
wisdom.

Du Bartas.  
Fift day.

These wonderfull parts and properties of this little creature, what are they but so many euident proofes of the infinite power and wisdom of the Creator?

For, if old times admire Calicrates  
For Inorie Emmets; and Mermecides  
For framing of a rigged ship so small,  
That with bir wings a Bee can hide it all;  
Admire we then th' All-Wise Omnipotence,  
Which doth within so narrow space dispen-  
se

So stiffe a sting, so stout and valiant hart,  
 So loud a voyce, so prudent Wit and Art,  
 Their well rul'd State my soule so much admires,  
 That, durst I loose the raines of my desires,  
 I gladly could digresse from my designe,  
 To sing a while their sacred discipline.



## CHAP. II.

## Of the Bee-Garden, and Seats for the Hives.



Or your Bee-garden, first choose some plot nigh your home, that the Bees may be in sight and hearing; because of swarming, fighting, or other suddaine hap, wherein they may neede your present helpe. While the stalls are few, your Garden of Hearbs and Flowers will serue. *Hortis coronamen-*

*tisq; maxime alvearia & apes conveniunt, res precipue questus compendijs, cum favit.* But when they are growne to a sufficient number, they require a square greene plot fitted for the purpose. v. n. 8.

2. See it bee safe, and surely fenced, not onely from all Cattell, (which if they breake in, may quickly spoile both the Bees and themselves) and specially from Swine (which by rubbing against the Hives, and tearing the hackles in a wantonnesse, are most apt to overthrow the stalls;) but also from the violence of the winds: that when the Bees come laden and wearie home, they may settle quietly. v. n. 5.

The North fence of your Garden should bee close and high, that the cold wind of that coast, (which blowing against the Bees comming home wearie, would throw downe

and

1.  
Of five things requisite in a Bee-garden, the first is that it be nigh at hand.

Nat. hist. li. 31.  
c. 12.

2.  
That it be safely fenced from cattell and winds.

3.  
The North and East fences should be high.



and kill many) may bee altogether kept from them. And therefore, if it may be, set your Bees on the South side of your house.

The East-fence also would bee good and high to keepe from the Bees as well the sunne, as the winde. For the sunne rising doth oftentimes till them forth, when the ayre is colder then they can endure; and the East-wind being cold & sharp is very vnkinde for Bees, specially in the Spring.

But in no wise let the place be shadowed from the South-sunne: for that doth not onely dry the Hiues and relieue the Bees in the Winter and Spring, but also causeth them to swarme in Summer, if it be not extreme hot and drie.

Nor yet from the Sunne-setting: because in calme and pleasant weather the Bees will be in the field after the Sunne is downe, euen as long as they can there see: and if when they returne, they finde it darke at home, many of them, their sight being but dim, v. fall short or wide: which flying and running to and fro till they be wearie, at length yeeld to the cold dew.

Otherwise let the fences be as good against the South and West-winds also, as may be: for although they be not so cold and bitter as the other; yet are they no lesse violent, and more frequent: so that they also doe much harme, specially in the Spring. And therefore if at that time of the year, in rough and boistrous winds, you finde that the Garden-fences doe not sufficiently guard and defend them; then is it good to set vp wixed or lined hurdles, or some other skreene betweene them and the weather. For though they can shifte abroad in the strongest winds, as a ship that hath sea room; yet are they easily ouerthrowne at the Hiue, as a shippe is soone wrecked at the Hauen.

A house or wall is fittest for the North fence: and a Quick-set-hedge for any of the other three: it may serue also for the first, specially if it be thicke.

3. That the place be sweet, not annoyed with any stinking fauour. I haue knowne a stall in the Spring, being sufficiently prouided of Honie, and hauing bred young, to forsake all, because of Poultry that roosted in a treecouer them.

Odors

4.  
The South and West fence must be also good, but not so high as to bide the Sunne from the Hiues.

V. 1. 19.

V. 1. 43.

5.  
In rough winds the Bees need a skreene.

6.  
3. That it be sweet.

*Odore fædæ odores, præculq, fugiunt*: And yet the smell of urine doth not offend them: nay, they will bee very busie where it is shed. It is thought they vse it for Physicke. *Remedium contra alvi concitationem est urina hominum vel bovm.*

4 That it be neither verie cold in Winter, nor very hot in Summer. *Locus æstate non fervidus, hyeme tepidus, v:* A bare flower is naught in both seasons: because in Winter it is over cold, and by that meanes quickly chilleth the Bees that light vpon it; and in Summer it causeth them to lie forth through excessiue heat, *v.* A grassie ground therefore is best at all times: but let it be kept notte in Summer, and not wet in Winter: for long grasse and weeds about the Hiue, doe but harbour the Bees enemies, *v.* and hinder both their passage in and out, and their rising againe when they fall short: and water if it stand, as it will bee offensive to your selfe, so is it dangerous to your Bees for chilling and drowning them. And as the parts about the hives are to be kept notte & bare; so are other places also, where the swarmes doe vse to play and pitch, whether within or without the Garden, to bee freed likewise from long grasse and weedes, much more from Beanes, Pease, Hempe, and such high things: for the young weake Nymphs falling in those shadie places, except the weather be warme and drie, are in danger to be chilled before they can rise againe. For which cause the swarmes doe usually refuse to stay and settle about such places: and then if windie or cloudie weather suffer them not to goe further, they must either goe home, or light vpon some other Hives: where, without your present skill and diligence, they are like to be all lost.

5 That it be conueniently beset with trees and bushes fit to receiue the swarmes, as Plum-trees, Cherry-trees, Apple-trees, Filberds, Hazels, Thornes, &c. Which they will the more delight to light vpon, if, conuenient boughes hanging out alone from the bodies, the twigs below standing in their way be pruned, and the weeds and grasse vnderneath be cut away close to the ground. Although, if they be willing to stay, they will not refuse a dead hedge, a Lauender Border, or the like, or sometime the bare ground. For want of trees,

Nat. hist. l. 17.  
c. 18.  
Nat. hist. l. 17.  
c. 12.

7.  
Neither very  
cold in Winter,  
nor over hot in  
Summer.

Hist. l. 9. c. 40.  
7. G. in c. 3. n.  
36.  
V. c. 5. n. 19.

8.  
A grassie ground  
is best, but kept  
notte and drie:  
V. c. 7. n. 3.

9.  
Beset with  
trees and bushes.

9.  
Beset with  
trees and bushes.

10.  
Beset with  
trees and bushes.



Some haue sticke vp greene boughes, and the Bees haue lighted vpon them.

10.  
Two sorts of seats.

The place being thus fitted, the seats are to be provided, which, whether they be stooles or benches, must be set a litle sheluing, that the raine may neither runne into the hime, nor stay at the doore.

11.  
The benches are so good as single stooles.

To set many stals vpon a bench (as many vse to doe) is not good: for that in Summer it may cause the Bees to fight, as hauing easie access on foot to each other, and standing so neere, that they shall sometime mistake the next Hime for their owne: and in Winter the bench will bee alwaies wet, which looseth the cloome, rotteth the bottome of the Hime, and offendeth the Bees: and the Mouse v. at all times hath free passage from one to an other, without feare.

V. 7. 2.

12.  
Swarmes may be set on benches.

The single stooles therefore are best. And yet it is not amisse to set most of your swarmes vpon benches, about the old stals: from whence remoue them to the stooles, when the stals are taken: and then set vp the benches till an other yeare. Yet I preferre single stooles set two foot apart, though they bee laid flat on the ground: but it is better to reare them with foure legges, though litle and short. If they be twelue or thirteene inches, three or foure inches may be forced into the ground for their surer standing.

13.  
Woodden stooles better then they of stone.

The best stooles are of wood: those of stone are too hot in hot weather, and (which is worse) too cold in cold.

14.  
The size of stooles.

For their size, they should not be aboue halfe an inch or an inch without the Hime: saue onely before, where there needeth the space of three or foure inches, that the Bees may haue roome enough to light vpon: specially then, when the sight of a rainy cloud sendeth them thronging home. Which fore-part from one side to the other, is to be cut sheluing that it may the better auoid the raine. And therefore if the Hime be fiteene inches ouer, the stoule should not be aboue sixteene or seuentee inches one way, and nineteene or twentie at the most the other way.

15.  
Which way the stooles should be set.

These stooles would be set toward the South, or rather a point or two into the West: that the Hime may somewhat breake

break the East-winde from the doore, v. and that the doore may be lightened by the Sunne-setting, when they returne late and loaded from field, v. and therefore it is to be wished that the Garden-fences did stand accordingly.

F. no. 3.

F. no. 4.

They should stand in straight rankes or rewes from East to West, five foot one from another (measuring from doore to doore) and from North to South, six foot one before another.

16.  
How neere to each other.

17.  
How neere to the fences.

Likewise let them stand as farre from three of the fences, as they doe one from an other. And so a plot of fiftie foot square, will receiue seven rankes of nine stooles a peece, with the space of eight foot before them: which if it were bigger, were so much the better.

For want of roome or stooles, or wit, many doe set their stalls neerer together. But the greater distance is much better: not onely that you may haue roome enough to goe round about euery one, to see and mend what is amisse; but also that the Bees, when they come home in haste, specially when a swarme goeth backe againe, may be sure to flie into their owne Hiue. For if they stand neere together, at such time many will take the next Hiue for their owne, and then they fall together by the eares; v. and the Nymphs, when they go first abroad, wil by that occasion the sooner mistake: which if they doe, they dye.

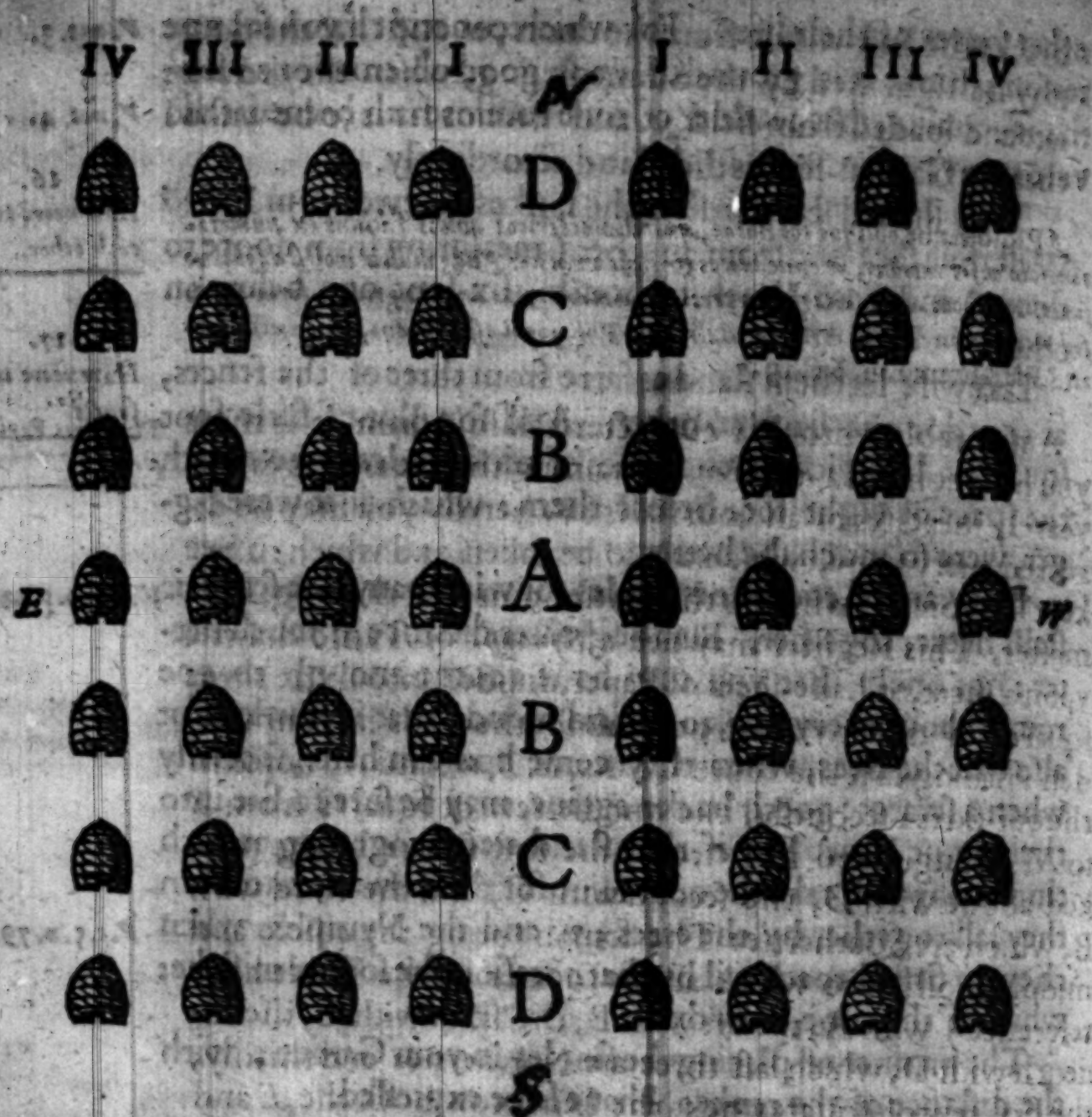
F. c. 5. n. 79.

The manner of placing the stooles in your Garden, with the distance of the rankes, I haue here expressed.

E 2

IV.





This Climactericall number of nine times seven, is a competent or rather complete store for any one Garden, though large and alone: which being well ordered, will yeeld the Bee-master the better part of a liberall maintenance: if any be so happy to attaine vnto it. So that I see no euill at all in this Number: although the sixtie three yeare of mans age, being likewise called *Climactericall*, (because it ariseth of nine Septenaries, as so many Climacters or Ladder-rounds) be counted of some, and those no small fooles too, a perles and ominous time: more dangerous for death, then all the other

other yeares of their life \*. For which conceipt if you see no reason; thinke it is grounded vpon good obseruations: for this is certaine, that a ladder of nine rounds hath bene fatall vnto many.

\* Ptolomæus obliquè eos notat, qui climactericos annos faciunt ex numerorum sola obseruatione, ut enneadicos & hebdomaticos. Vnde multis molestæ senilium superstitio super anno sexagesimo tertio, quondam peius angui tigrisq; formidant: sed peccat in his vulgus errore veniali, qui Philosophi esse volunt, qui excusauerit? Plc. Miran. Lib. 6. c. 19.

Answerable vnto this climactericall Squadron it is meet you haue at hand a Register, containing the seuerall ages and yearly increases of all your stalls. Whereby you may be directed euery yeare, which are to be taken and which to bee kept for store: v: which is the chiefe point of a thriving Bee-master. This Register may bee a *Synopsis* or Table drawne vpon a sheet, or halfe-sheet of Paper, diuided into sixtie three squares, or as many as be needfull for the stalls in your Garden: hauing first the foure Coasts, *E. S. W. and N.* noted in the out-sides: secondly, the middle rew of squares from *S* to *N.* distinguished by Letters, the first square being marked aboue with *D*, the second with *C*, and the third with *B*, which are Southerne: The fourth (being the chiefe and middle-most, vnto which all the squares in the Table haue reference) with *A*, the fift with *B*, the sixth with *C*, the seventh with *D*, which last three are Northerne: and thirdly, the first rew of squares next the Letters on both the *E* and *W* side, noted in the top or South-part with one *I*, the second on both sides with *I I*, the third with *I I I*, and the fourth with *I V*.

The Table thus drawne, when you haue set a swarme vpon any stoole in the garden, marke in what letters ranke it is, what number from the Letter, and whether Eastward or Westward: and in the square answering thereto begin his Register, setting downe first the two last figures of the yeare of the Lord, then for a prime swarme, a double circle, for a castling halfe a double circle, then the day of the moneth in which he was swarmed, writing *M* for May, *I* for Iune, *J* for Iuly. The next line begin with the next yeare: if he did

19.  
The Bees Register.

V. 6. 10. p. 1. 3



swarme, set down a strolled circle, and the day of the moneth: if he swarmed againe, set downe in the same line a halfe circle, with a downe-right stroke, and the day of the moneth: if he did not swarme, but were full to the doore, set downe a circle with a full point in it: if he did also lye out, set downe a circle with a blotted circle in it: if hee did neither lie out nor were full, set downe a void circle.



And then doe likewise all the yeares that this stall endureth. When the Table waxeth full, after the vindemie make a new: taking out of the old the Register of those that live. By this meanes you may certainly know the age, and yearly increases of any stall in your Garden: and so guesse whether he be fitter to kill or to keepe. *V. c. 10. p. 1. 7. 3.*

20.  
The stooles height

Also the stooles should not stand about two foot from ground, because of the wind: nor vnder one foot for the dampnesse of the ground in winter, which would make the Hiues moist and mustie; and for the heat of the ground in Summer, which in hot and dry weather would make the Bees lye out, and so hinder both their worke and swarming. *v.*

*V. c. 5. n. 19.*

The best heighth is between eightene and twentie inches. Yet if you haue many, it is conuenient that the more Northward rankes should stand higher, and the more Southward lower, descending by degrees from two foot to one: as if there be two rewes of stooles, let the first stand two foot from ground, the next eightene inches, & the benches or swarme-stooles one foot or lesse. *v.* If there be three rankes beside the benches, let the second be twentie inches, and the third sixteen, &c.

*V. n. 12.*

This vnequall heighth of rankes may as conueniently be effected, though the stooles be all equall, by the vnequall leuelling of the ground: which in a great Bee-fold is best.

21.  
How to be footed.

The stone-stooles must be footed as they may: the fashion of each place where they are vsed will direct you. But the planks or wooden stooles are either to haue foure feet made of the heart of Oake, or of some other lasting Wood;

or

orto be fastned to one foot with two wooden pins: which foot let be made of sound timber five or six inches ouer, and of that length, that it may be set betweene fiftene and eightene inches in the ground.



CHAP. III.

Of the Hives, and the Dressing of them.



**I**N some countries they vse strawne Hives bound with briar: in some wicker Hives made of Priuer, Worthy, or Hazel, dawbed vsually with Cow-cloome tempered with grauelly dust, or sand, or ashes.

1.  
*Two sorts of Hives.*

The strawne Hives when they are olde and loded, do vsually sinke on the one side, (specially if they take wet) and so break the combes and let out the hony: for which cause, first see that they be hard wrought, and then spleet them strong with a Cop, v. fitted to the top of the Hiu.

2.  
*Strawne Hives with their inconveniencies and remedies.*  
V. 11.

The Wicker Hives will still be at fault, and lie open, (if they be not often repaired) vnto Wasps, Robbers, & Mice. Any of these, if shee finde but a little chap, will dig her way in: and the Mouse (vnlesse the twigs be close wrought) though she finde none.

3.  
*Wicker Hives with their inconveniencies and remedies.*

Both these Hives, if they be not well couered, are subiect to wet: which maketh them musty, and, if it be much, rotteth the combes, and destroyeth the Bees. But the heat in Summer, the cold in Winter, and the raine at all times doth soonest pierce the Wicker Hives: for which cause it is good to double dawbe them.

4.  
*Strawne Hives best.*

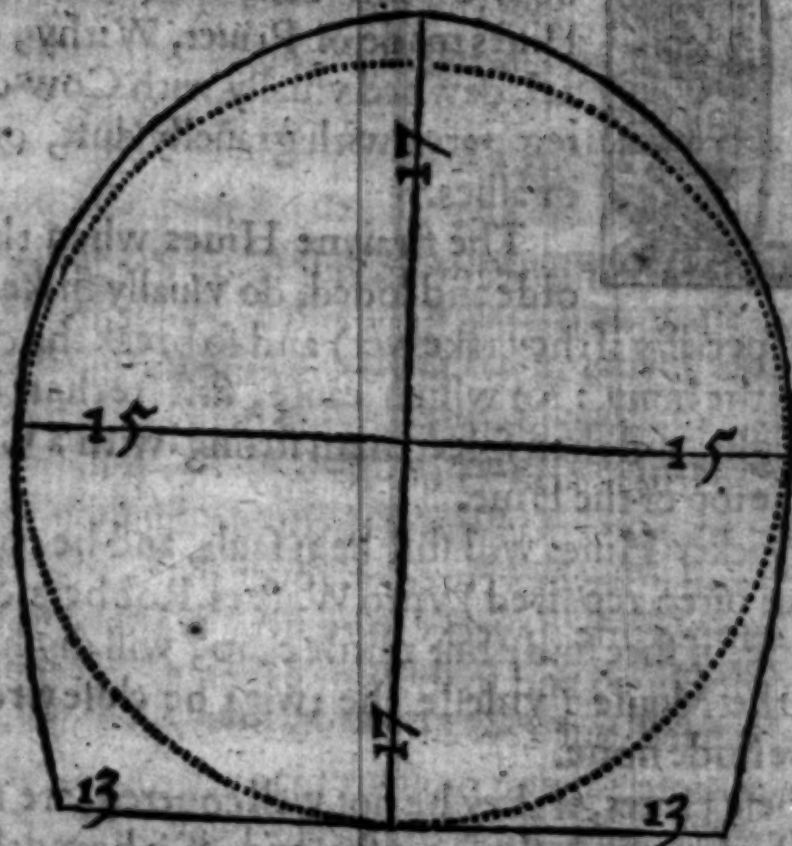
All things considered, the strawne Hives are better, specially for small swarmes.

The



5.  
The fashion of  
Hives.

The Bees do best defend themselves from cold, when they hang round together in manner of a Sphere or Globe (which the Philosophers account the most perfect figure) and therefore the neerer the Hive cometh to the fashion thereof, the warmer and safer be the Bees. But of necessitie the bottome must be broad, for the vpright and sure standing of the Hive, and for the better taking out of the combs: and the top must rise some two or three inches higher then the iust forme of a Globe, to stay the hackle, and to shunne the raine: which yet, where the Hives are covered with panns, is not necessary. Otherwise let your Hives vary no more from this round figure, then needs must: as where it is within from the top to the skirts seventeene inches, in the middle or widest place through the center fisteene inches, and at the skirts thirteene, after this forme.



This forme with his dimensions wil containe three pecks: and the abating of one inch in each dimension, abareth a gawne in the content.

The best that I haue seene are wrought by *Thomas May* of *Sunning*, about one mile from *Redding*.

Hives

Hiues are to be made of any size betweene a bushell and halfe a bushell : that any swarme, of what quantity or time soeuer, may be fitly hiued. v: Lesse then halfe a bushell will not containe a competent stall, and more then a bushell is found too bigge for any company to continue, and thrive together.

The midling size of three pecks, or within a pottle, vnder or ouer, as fitly containing the naturall quantity of a good stall, is most profitable.

Haue alwaies Hiues enough of all sorts (but most of the midling size) in store, lest they be to seeke when you should vse them.

The best time for making them, whether they be Strawne or Wicker, is in the three still moneths of Winter, *Sagittar. Capr. and Aquar. v:* for then the \* straw, briers, and twigs are best in season: and then is it best to provide them, because then they are best cheape.

\* The best straw is most yellow without blacke spots, which is strong and tough.

**Y**OUR Hiue being ready is thus to be dressed: First, take away all those staring strawes, twigs, and other offensive jagges that are fast in the Hiue, making the in-side as smooth as may be: for these obstacles being many, if they cause not the Bees to forsake the Hiue, yet will they much trouble and hinder them: you may heare them (specially in the night) scraping and gnawing three or foure daies after they be hiued, yea sometime a weeke together, as though there were wise in the Hiue: and in strawne Hiues a long time after.

If you need but few Hiues you may prune them cleane with your knife: if you must vse many, then, hauing wet the skirts with a cloth, singe or sweale the in-side: but first and last rub it well with a Rubber, which is a peece of rough grind-stone or sand stone, as great as your hand can hold.

2. The Hiue being pruned, put Spleeres in it, a three or foure, as the largenesse of the Hiue shall require: the vpper ends whereof set together at the top of the Hiue, and the nether ends fasten below in equall distance, about a handfull

F

aboue

6.  
The size of Hiues  
V. s. 5. n. 43.

7.  
When Hiues are to be made and provided.  
V. n. 54.  
nov. Dec. Jan.

8.  
How Hiues are to be dressed before they receive the swarmes.

9.  
The pruning of Hiues.

10.  
The spraying or spleering of them



11.

The making of  
the Cop, and of  
the Spleets.

about the skirt. In a wicker-Hiue let the vpper ends rest against the middle of the staffe, & the nether end against the parts of it betweene the Wickers; and in a strawne Hiue, set the vpper ends together in a Cop, and the nether ends against the briars or threads, between the third & fourth roule.

The Coppe is a round peece of wood an inch or two thicke, whose lower *superficie* is flat, with a hole in the middle halfe an inch deepe, for the spleets to rest in; and the vpper is conuex, turned or hewed fit to the concauitie of the top of the Hiue.

And for the Spleets, take a streight hazel or willow-sticke, quarter it if it be bigge enough, else slit it: then shaue and smooth the clefts, and hauing brought them to a conuenient strength & length, cut the lower ends forked, to stay against the Hiues sides, and the vpper ends somewhat picked, and of that bignesse that they may fitly ioyne in the Cop or middle of the staffe, with their backs leaning hard and fast one against another.

<sup>a</sup> If the Hiue containe about three peckes, it may well receiue foure Spleets: otherwise three will suffice.

<sup>b</sup> Stiffe enough to keepe vp the Strawne Hiues from sinking, specially when they are turned. c. 5. n. 22. & 23.

<sup>c</sup> If you put foure Spleets in a Hiue, then cut their baekes, where they must leane one against another, to square angles, such as be foure in a circle: if but three, cut them to obtuse angles, such as are three in a circle: (you may readily try them, before you put them in, by Moulds made iust to those formes) and so will they stand close and firme together. The first two of three, and the first three of foure are loose: it is the last that makes all fast.

And this is a handsome, easie, and sure way of spleeting: it is also good for drawing the Combes without breaking, and for keeping the Hiue from sinking and from tearing at the top. Besides which there are diuers sorts of spleeting, needles to be rehearsed: for euery Countrey hath his fashion.

12.

The seasoning of  
them.

3 Lastly, in swarming time season the Hiues that you meane to vse, rubbing them with sweet herbes such as the Bees loue, as Tyme, Sauourie, Marioram, Baulme, Fenell, Hysop, Mallowes, Beane-tops, &c. And when the swarme

is

## and the Dressing of them.

is settled, take the Hiue that you thinke fit for it in bignesse, v. and with a branch of Hazell, Oake, Willow, or any of the foresaid herbs, but chiefly with a sprig of that tree whereon the swarme lighted, wipe the Hiue cleane; and then dipping it into Meth, or faire water mixed with a little hony, or with milke and salt, or, for a need, with salt onely, besprinkle the same.

But if the Hiue haue beene vsed before, after you haue pared away the wax as cleane as may be, if you thinke the former dressing will not make it sweet enough; then let a hogge eat two or three handfuls of mault, or pease, or other corne in the Hiue: meane while doe you so turne the Hiue, that the some or froth, which the hogge maketh in eating, may goe all about the Hiue. And then wipe the Hiue lightlie with a linnen cloth, and so will the Bees like this Hiue better than a new. But besprinkle it also, when you doe vse it, as is shewed before. And so serue a new Hiue when the Bees are so froward, that they will not otherwise abide.

And thus are the Hives to be prepared and Dressed, before they receiue the Bees. Now will I shew you how they are afterward to be fitted and furnished.

1. First, let them be alwaies well couered, that they may be safe in Summer from heat, lest, the wax melting, the Combes fall downe; v. in Winter from cold, lest it kill the Bees; v. and at all times from raine, lest it corrupt first the Hiue, afterward the Combes, and at last the Bees also. v.

In some places (where the stalls are not many) they vse earthen couers: but these doe not defend the lower part, and in Summer are too hot.

The best couer for Hives is a thicke haekle: *Alvearia stramento operis utilissimum*. Which is thus to be made. Take foure or five handfulls of \*Wheat or Rie leas'd out of the sheafe: which being bound vp severally, beat out the corne; and then casting away their bands, draw out the eares of each handfull longer on the one side than on the other: and putting the long sides together (so to make the Head in forme of a Pyramis or Sugar-loafe, for shooting the raine)

C. 3.

V. c. 5. n. 43.

81

13.

The seasoning of  
an old Hiue.

14.

How Hives are  
to be ordered  
when the Bees  
are in them.

15.

The Hives al-  
waies well back-  
led.

V. c. 7. n. 53.

V. c. 7. n. 54.

V. c. 7. n. 58.

Nat. hist. li. 21.

c. 14.

16.

How to make a  
haekle.

\* In want of  
such straw,  
Wood-benet, or  
Sedge, or Rushes  
may serue.



17.  
The Cap of two  
sorts.

18.  
The wreathed  
Cap.

19.  
The platted Cap.

binde them all in one vnder the eares, as hard as you can.

The Head is to be couered or bound fast with a Cap: of which there be two good fashions, the one wreathed, the other platted.

The wreathed Cap is thus made; hauing bound the bundles all fast together with a thong, eord, or other strong string, leafe out of the sheafe almost a handfull of the strongest straw, and lay it in soake about a quarter of an houre. Being thus prepared, take out of that wet bundle a litche of 40. or 50. reedes or strawes; and laying halfe of them one way, and halfe the other, that the band may be of equall bignesse, take them vp together; and then mingling one end of the litche with the middle reedes of the Head, and twisting them fast together in your hand, let the band harle or double in the very top of the Head: and so begin to binde the Head round, working downeward, and still twisting the band as you goe. When that litche is well-nigh wrought vp, take out of the wet bundle so many more reedes prepared as before: and when you haue mingled one end thereof with the end of the first litche, holding them in your hand twist them fast together: and so continue your worke, alwaies binding as hard as you can, & bearing vp every roule close to his fellow. When you are come down to the string, loose it, and binde the last or lowest roule in the place thereof, making fast the end, by forcing it vp between the Head and the Cap with a forked sticke and a mallet.

The platted Cap is wrought contrary to the wreathed: for whereas that is begun in the crown, & wrought downward toward the right hand, and is made fast in the necke; this is begun at the necke, and wrought vpward toward the left hand, and is made fast in the crowne, after this manner.

First take a litch of strong reedes, and hauing wetted and wound it a little, put it about the necke of the hackle, and knitting the ends in a half knot, girt the hackle hard with it: (your assistant holding one end, while you pull the other) then to make this collar fast, wrap each end about it, forcing them betweene the collar and the head with the forke and mallet: Otherwise you may make a strong collar of a small

Wich.

With. The collar thus fitted to the necke, set the hackle betweene your legs, as you sit or stand, with the knot outward: and then, to begin, take vp a litche of the eares (about the bignesse of the top of your finger) next vnto the fore-said left end of the collar, and laying this end betweene it and the head, turne the top of the end downward, and so leaue it: then take the next litch, and laying the first betweene it and the head, turne the first downward, and so leaue it: then likewise take a third litche, and laying the second betweene it and the head, turne the second downward, and so leaue it: likewise the fourth, and so forth, working thus round, till you come to the crowne, and platting still the litches hard, and close to the head. But when you come to the other end of the Collar, take that in for a litche. If the litches be too short for the worke, plucke them vp higher about the necke as you goe. When you haue wrought vp to the Crowne, knitting the foure last or top-litches in a true-loues-knot, make all fast.

The hackle thus made of foure or fve handfulls will conteine in compasse about the necke, close vnder the Cap, betweene sixteene and twenty inches: sixteene will serue for the smaller Hiues, and twenty for the greatest, although they be fve foot about.

For the length of the hackles, each one is to be fitted to his Hiue, so that the skirts thereof may reach to the stoole, or within halfe an inch of it round about; saue onely before, where it must be pared somewhat shorter, that the Bees passage be not hindered.

And then with a small pliant Garth or Belt of Bethwyn, Bramble, Brier, or the like, gird the hackle close to the Hiue\*, lest the wind disorder it. If there be any crooke or bout in the Belt, set that before, that the hackle, bearing in that place farther out, may shoot the water from the doore: otherwise, for that purpose, set the Belt somewhat higher before, then behinde.

\*In the Winter, place the Belt below the middle or biggest part of the Hiue, to keepe it warme in extremity of cold. In Summer aboue, that the nether part of the hackle hanging out from the Hiue, the Hiue may be the cooler: and then because the Belt will be apt to rise, it would be held

20.  
*The bignesse of  
the hackle.*

21.  
*The length of it.*

22.  
*The belt or  
garth.*



23.  
The hackle now  
and then to be  
taken off.

24.  
The Hives al-  
waies close cloc-  
med.

Nat. hist. li. 21.  
cap. 24.

25.  
Then seldome to  
be mowed.

V. n. 41. 49.  
53. & 67. & 8  
& 9.

26.  
How a Hive lif-  
ted vp is to be  
set downe againe.

27.  
The Hive-doore.

28.  
The Gate or  
Summer-doore.

downe to the place with two forked stickes, the foik resting vpon the Belt, and the other end vnder the Cap.

The Hackle thus fitted and placed, is now and then to be remoued, not onely to meet with Mice, Moths, Spiders, Ere-wigs, &c. which harbour vnder it, and to see what breaches the Mouse and Tit-mouse haue made; but also to ayre the moist Hiue: and this in a warme and windy day after much wet.

Next keepe the Hives alwaies close for defence of the Bees against their enemies. The best cloome for that purpose is made of Neats dung: *circumlini alveos fimo bubula uti- lissimum*: but to harden it, temper it with Lime or Ashes, with sand or grauell, which are also good against the gnaw- ing of Mice. With this cloome close vp the skirts & brackes of your Hives: that there be no way into them, but onely by the doores.

And being thus safely shut, moue them not without vr- gent occasion; v. for often lifting vp the Hiue, and letting in the open aire doth discourage the stall.

But whensoever you are occasioned so to doe (the Bees being stirring) lest any be crushed betweene the skirts and the stoole in setting it downe againe, reele vp one side with a little tile-shard: which, when the Bees are quiet, take away, and see the Hiue close cloomed againe.

The Bees entrance, as anon in this Chapter is shewed, must be sometime larger, sometime lesse, sometime nothing at all. And therefore euery Bee-Hiue must haue his Gate or Sum- mer-doore, a Winter-doore or wicker, a Barre or shutting of the wicker.

The Gate or Summer-doore must be made of that size, that the Bees in Summer, when their number is greatest, may haue aire enough, with free egresse and regresse, not letting one another. The space of foure square inches is sufficient for any stall.

This Summer-doore is made thus: First cut away the lowest roule the space of five inches: and, with the Briar or Thred which bound that part, make fast both ends. Then fill vp a- gaine the two extreme halfe-inches of the space, with two Doore-posts.

The

The Doore-posts are two spleets halfe an inch broad, and five or six inches long, whereof the lowest inch is twice so thicke as the other, with a shouldering on the in-side. These Posts forced vp through the middle of the roules in their place, to the shouldering, as they serue to size our the Summer-doore to his due space of foure square inches; so are they fit to receiue the Winter-doore, v: when it shall be ioy-  
ned vnto them.

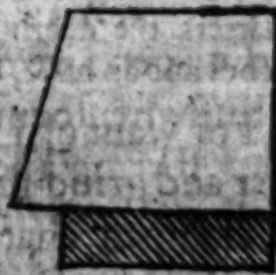
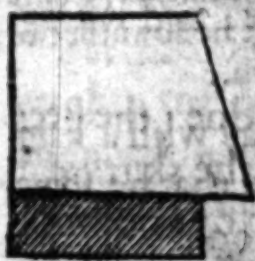
29  
Of the doore-  
posts, and the  
use of them.

F. n. 30.

If the Hiue be with the least, you may set vp the Posts without cutting the roule.

In a Wicker-hiue the Summer-doore is made more easily.

Sometime, namely when a Hiue is reared, moueable posts are requisite: which may serue also at other times. A moueable Post is an inch-square peece of wood, with a shouldering aboue to rest against the Hiue: and an other in the in-side of the doore to fit the wicket: the forme is this.



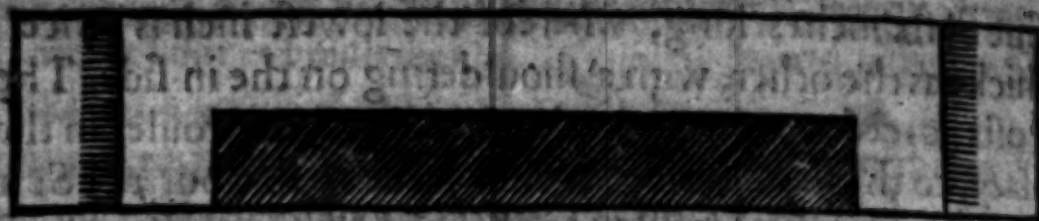
The Winter-doore or Wicket is made of a peece of wood, an inch and a quarter thicke, almost an inch high, and five inches long. At each end whereof cut away halfe an inch all saue before, where that halfe inch in length must be leaſt a quarter thicke, with his full heighth to fit the doore-posts: then in the middle of the neather side, cut, through the thickeſſe, a hollowneſſe or paſſage, almost halfe an inch high, and three inches long: and then there will remaine at each end of the hollowneſſe halfe an inch vncut, beſides the two extreme halfe inches leaſt a quarter thicke, and fitted to the Posts.

30.  
The Winter-  
doore, or Wicket.

The fashion of which wicket you may see in this figure.

The





31.

The use of it.

The use of the Winter doore is to straighten the passage when there needeth not so much roome, that the Bees may the better keepe out the Robbers, that the Cold may haue the lesse force, and that the Mice may not enter, which in winter are wont to make much spoile. *v. c. 7. n. 3.*

32.

The Barre.*v. c. 7. n. 6.*

The Barre or shutting is to be made foure square of some heavy matter, as namely of Lead (that neither the rough wind nor craftie Titmouse *v.* may remoue it) in \*length, depth, and thicknesse fitting to the wicket; with some little hollownesse next the stoole, that may let in the aire, and not let out the Bees.

\* The length may be three inches and an halfe, the thicknesse three quarters, the depth halfe an inch: and the length of the hollownesse two inches and an halfe, the depth halfe a quarter of an inch.

For want of Lead or other mettrall, you may with a hammer and grind-stone fit a Tile-shard: but let that be somewhat broad, that it may lie the faster on the stoole.

33.

The use of it.

With this Barre you may shut or halfe shut the Wicket, as you shall see cause; to defend the Bees in the more dangerous times from Frost, Snow, Titmuse, and Robbers.

For small stalls, the Gate, Wicket, and Barre, may be all of a lesse size.

34.

The Settle.

It is also conuenient for each hiue to haue his Settle before him: which may be a planke of the bredth of the stoole, and of that length that it may stand leaning from the ground to the fore-part of the stoole: that thereon the Bees may settle when they come wearie or thronging home, and so ascend to the doore; and that there they may funne and refresh themselues being chilly and wearie. Otherwise you may make a narrow planke or boord to serue, fitting the length of it to the bredth of the stoole, and then the one edge leaning to the fore-part of the stoole, let the other bee borne

borne vp with two forked stakes set fast in the ground, or by some other props.

**B**ee-hives being thus fitted with all necessities, are afterward at diuers times of the yeare to be diuersly ordered.

The *Melissian* yeare is most fitly measured by the Astronomicall monethes ( which begin with the Sunnes entrance into the seuerall signes of the Zodiack, and are therefore called by their names ) because as the Sunne, entring into the twelue signes, and so beginning these twelue moneths, doth notoriously alter his course, making the daies longer or shorter, the aire warmer or colder, and the earth more fruitfull or barren, making also both the *Aequinoctia* and *Solsticia*, in which the foure quarters of the yeare, Spring, Summer, Autumne and Winter take their beginnings ; so the most notable alterations about Bees, in things either to be obserued in them, or to be done for them, doe likewise fall out in the beginnings of these moneths.

But the foure Quarters the Bees begin one moneth sooner then the Astronomers. For their Spring or first quarter beginneth with *Pisces*, when the Sunne beginneth by his quickning heat to reuiue the flowers, which all the dead of Winter lay buried in the ground; and the Bees hauing tasted thereof beginne to breed, v. and to increase their companies for the fruits of ensuing Summer, which from the former Summer hitherto haue daily decreased: the other Spring-moneths are *Aries* and *Taurus*, v. n. 63. &c.

Their Summer likewise containeth *Gemini*, *Cancer*, and *Leo*, most rich and plentiful in flowers and dewes, v: where with the multiplied Bees doe now store their Cells against the penurie of Winter, v. n. 37.

Their Autumne or Haruest, hath *Virgo*, *Libra*, and *Scorpio*: in which the Bee-masters v: and the Master-Bees v: doe reape the ripe fruits of many Bees labours, v: n. 44.

And their Winter consisteth of the three *still* moneths: v. in which the Bees liue altogether vpon their Summer-store, and get nothing, v. n. 58.

Hetre note, that although Winter and Summer doe properly

How to order the Bee-hives throughout the yeare.

The moneths and quarters of the *Melissian* yeare

V. c. 4. n. 23.

V. c. 6. n. 38. &c.

V. c. 10. n. 1. &c.

V. c. 7. n. 25. &c.

28.

V. c. 59.



C. 3.

Psal. 74. 17.

Prov. 20. 4.

Eccl. 1. 4.

Eccl. 1. 4.

Eccl. 1. 4.

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Eccl. 1. 4.

Eccl. 1. 4.

# Of the Hives,

perly betoken two of the 4. quarters of the yeare; yet \* some-  
time they be taken, according to the common account, for  
two halfe parts or moities thereof: the one containing the  
warmer season, as from the end of *Aries* to the end of *Libra*,  
the other the colder, as from the end of *Libra* to the end of  
*Aries*.

\* Namely, when they are mentioned together in a kind of opposition:  
as c. 2. n. 7. where you read, neither very cold in Winter, nor very hot in  
Summer. *Locus astate non fervidus, hyeme tepidus, &c.* Which two opposite  
parts the Poet doth fely distinguish and describe by the two times of so-  
dering and of pasturing Sheepe and Goats.

*— Pictumq; fides & virginalatus*

*Pabula, nec tota claudes foenilia Bruma:*

*At vero Zephyris quum lata vocantibus Aestas,*

*In saltus utrumq; gregem & Pasca mittes.*

But they are more certainly notified by the coming of the Fieldfare,  
and of the Swallow: the one bringing cold Winter, the other warme  
Summer with her. Hir Sister *Philomela*, that shrowdes hir selfe in the  
woods, is wont a litle to prevent hir, observing more the time of the  
yeare, then the disposition of the aire: For she is heard commonly the last  
weeke in *Aries*, though it bee then cold and winterly weather: whereas  
*Pr. gne* stayeth after that untill she finde it warme abroad. If some foolish  
one or other chance to start out of hir Do: mitorie sooner, the Prouerbe  
then is verified, One Swallow makes not a Summer.

The Spring having replenished the Hives with plentie of  
Bees, the Summer is readie with his plentie of Honie to en-  
tertaine them. During which season the Hives must have  
their largest entrance. v: lest the thronged multitudes be pe-  
stered for want of aire, or doe let one an other as they goe  
and come earnest in their worke, or bee stayed in swarming  
when they should passe at pleasure. Neither can the open-  
nesse of the Hives be hurtfull vnto them, seeing now there is  
no feare of enemies.

At *Gemini* therefore set the doores v: wide open, without  
Barre or Wicket: and so let them stand all this quarter.

*Gemini* being past, if the weather be vually coole, when  
there commeth a calme warme day, take off the hackles from  
those Hives that are likely to swarme. But if the weather be  
extreme hot and dry, then is it good to keepe on the hac-  
kles to coole the Hives, &c. v. c. 5. n. 21.

At mid-*Cancer* double the stalls that lie out. v. c. 5. n. 22. 23.  
When

Georg. lib. 3.

Metam. lib. 6.

37.  
SUMMER.

v. n. 28.

38.  
In GEMINI  
set the doores  
wide open.

v. n. 28.

39.  
CANCER.

40.  
To make the Bees  
swarm.

## and the Dressing of them.

C. 3.

When you would haue no more swarmes, as namely after the first blowing of Blackberries, *v.* which is commonly within a seuen night after Midsummer: set vp those Hiuies that are full with three Tile-shards, or other things of like thicknesse, and cloome vp the space betweene the hiue and the stoole: If yet they chance to swarme, as soone as they are hiued, put them backe to the stocke, *v. c. 5. n. 11.*

41.  
*To keepe them  
from swarming.  
V. c. 5. n. 11.*

Also reare the swarmes that being vnder-hiued doe lie forth, with bolsters of that thicknesse that may but let in the Bees.

In *Leo*, or presently after the last swarme, kill the Drones, of those stalls you meane to take, with a Drone-pot cloomed to the doore. *V. c. 4. n. 35.*

42.  
**LEO.**

And if you see any other so pestered with multitudes, that they are loath to meddle with them; you shall doe well to helpe them some warme afternoone, and then will they take the worke out of your hand, and spend the lesse time about it.

43.  
*How and when  
to kill the Drones.*

To the plentiful Summer succeedeth wastfull Autumne. At *Virgo* therefore, or a little before, (which is the most dangerous time for Bees, because of Waspses that then, if not sooner, learne the way into the Hiuies, but chiefly of robbing Bees, which then begin to spoile) *v.* To the Gates of the weaker stalls, (whether they be small swarmes, or stocks that haue cast twice and late) set vp the Winter-doores, and fasten them with good cloome, *v.* and see that the Hiuies bee close in all places. (Those that haue lien forth or otherwise be verie full, you may let alone and not straighten their entrance till the weather bee colder, for such are safe enough.) But first view your swarmes whether they fit their Hiuies: those that haue not now wrought downe within a handfull of the stoole, if you meane to keepe them (to the end they may lye warme the Winter following, and be ready at the doores to keepe out robbers) cut off so much of the skirts as will serue the turne (the bigger the Hiue is, the more you may lessen him) and so set him downe, cut a Summer-doore *v.* in the skirt, and put to the Winter-doore. Without such help the cold will kill many, and weaken all, whereby they

44.  
**HARVEST**

45.  
**VIRGO.**

46.  
*To keepe the weaker  
hiues from  
robbing.  
V. l. 7. n. 28.*

47.  
*Set vp the Winter-  
doores.  
V. n. 24.*

V. n. 28.



Hist. 19. c. 40.

48.  
And keepe them  
shut til they offer  
to go abroad.

V. n. 33.

49.  
The reared stalls  
now to be set  
downe againe.

V. n. 41.

V. c. 1. n. 55.

V. c. 4. n. 23. &amp; c.

V. n. 26.

50

In Virgo try  
whether the Bees  
will line.

V. 47. n. 45.

become vnlustie in all their doings: as the Philosopher well noted, *Ss aluens iusto amplior sit, desidiosiores redduntur.*

Moreouer, because the Waspes and robbing Bees will bee stealing betimes, before the true Bees be stirring; it is good in the euening, when the Bees are all in, to barre vp the Wickets of those that are weake, that a Bee cannot passe: and not to open the same the next day till the weather be warme, and the Bees offer to come abroad, though it be not before nine, or ten, or eleuen a clock: and then you may either open it, or halfe-open it, according to the flight of your Bees, v.

The stalls which you reared in the end of *Cancer* for feare of swarming or want of roome, v. (now that the death of the old Bees v. and of the Drones v. hath made roome) are to be set downe againe, v. lest their swarming be hindred the next yeare: vnlesse they be swarmes that haue wrought downe to the stoole.

Also in this moneth, about the middle, those Hives which you deeme to be weake because the Bees are gone vp from the doore, knocke with your hand, one after another: they that at the first or second stroke doe make a great noise both aboue and beneath, continuing the same for a space, haue store of Bees, and are therefore in lesse danger: but those that make a little short noise, though they be heauy and haue Honie enough (such as are commonly those of three yeare old, & vpward, that haue cast twice or oftner that yeare, and did not by *Virgo* beate away their Drones) yet haue they but few Bees, and are therefore ill able to resist the violent multitude of Robbers: which, when they perceiue their weaknesse, will neuer leaue them, as long as there is a drop of Honie in the Hine.

If you see them once fighting, v. either presently take them, or make their entrance so narrow, that but one Bee may passe at once: and before *Libra* bee sure to take them. For though they escape this robbing-time through your care and diligence; yet at the Spring they will surely yeeld, or die of themselves, or flie away. Note yet, that those stalls which are very full, will make but a little noise when you knocke them, (but different from the other, as being quicke, smart, and

and all ouer the Hiue) vnill toward the end of this moneth, when they be gone vp from the doore, and their number is somewhat diminished.

In the end of this moneth is the time to kill and drive Bees, *v. c. 10. part. 1. n. 2. & 13.* Some Bees faile after *Virgo*: and therefore it is good to make triall of them in *Libra* also, by poyling and knocking the Hiues; for as they that then make \* a little noise will die for lacke of company; so they that are light will die for lacke of mear. And alwaies haue an eye to those that the Robbers doe eagerly haunt: which is a signe that they perceiue in them some defect or other: and therefore will not be answered without their errand.

\* A little short noise about in the Hiue, specially when in the end some few single Bees endeuour by their earnest and continued sound to seeme many, bewraith their paucity and decaying.

Such as by these meanes you finde vnlikely to liue, take or driue: those that you suspect, and yet are willing to keep; marke them, feed them in due time, and proue them againe in *Pisces* and *Aries*.

At *Libra*, or before if you see cause, set vp the Winter-doores of the best, and then diligently in the euening shut all those in with the Barre, that haue least watching at the doore. For in the cold mornings, while the true Bees keepe in, because it is not fit time for them to gather in; the theues, both Waspses & Bees will be abroad, seeking where they may breake in and steale. But still let the weaker haue their Wickers halfe-shut.

This shutting & opening of the Wickers must be continued throughout *Scorpio* also; vnlesse abundance of cold raine do sooner chasten the Waspses. But for the poore stalls, it is best to keepe them halfe-shut all the day long, as in *Virgo* and *Libra*.

At *Scorpio* dresse your Hiues for Winter. First lift vp the stalls (except those that be full of Bees, which will not need your helpe) and sweepe the stooles cleane: then setting them downe againe warily, *v. c.* that you hurt no Bees, cloome them close, and mend all brackes and faults about them: and where the hackles be worne, set new in their steads, that may keepe

51.  
Now take the  
Combes.

52.  
LIBRA.

53.  
Try them againe  
in *Libra* also.

54.  
Now set vp the  
wickets to the  
best, and keep the  
rest shut till the  
Bees offer to goe  
abroad.

55.  
SCORPIO

56  
Continue the  
shutting and o-  
pening of the  
wickets this mo-  
neth also.

57.  
How to dresse  
the Hiues for  
winter.  
*V. n. 26.*



58.  
WINTER.

59.  
SAGIT.  
CAPRIC.  
AQVAR.  
three still mo-  
neths.

60.  
How the Bees  
spend their time  
in them.

61.  
The first sharpe  
weather in Capr.  
shut the Bees in.  
V. 6. 7. 8. 6.

62.  
And in pleasant  
weather let them  
loose, if it may  
be, once a fort-  
night.

P. n. 59. & c. 1.  
n. 59.

the Hives dry and warme. And now remember also to shut the wickets of them all.

After Autumae, the Sunne drawing neere the Winter Tropicke, with a short and low course about our *Horison*, there follow three *still* moneths, *Sagittarius*, *Capricornus*, and *Aquarius*: in which as the plants lie still in the earth waiting the Sunnes returne to reuiue them; so the Bees lie still in their Hives, passing this fruitlesse time in sleepe and slumber. Yet so, that if there happen a milde and warme houre, they presently perceiuing it awake out of their swiuet, and hyethem out of doores with all alacrity: that they may take the fresh aire, recreate themselues, drinke, exercise their wings, carry out their dead and other noysomenesse, and lighten their little bellies, which are oft times so stuffed, when the weather suffereth them not to goe abroad, that they can hold no more: so loth are they to defile their nests. And hauing thus refreshed themselues, at their returne, they take their repast, and then betake them againe to their rest. But many such daies, specially in time of scarcity, are dangerous, as causing them to spend much of their store, which in *still* frosts they would spare.

The first soule and cold weather in *Capricorne* shut the Wickets close, to saue the Bees from the Tir-mouse, v. and from the cold, as well within the Hiuie as without. For as the frost and snow and cold winds, yea and the ordinary disposition of the aire doth chill many of them, whom the flattering sun-shine enticeth abroad; so the great frosts, striking through the doore, doe freeze the nethermost in the Hiuie to death: so that by little and little many stalls in some winters haue beene thereby wholly destroyed: the which, by keeping them warme, might haue beene preserued. But when you shut them in, be sure the Hives be alwayes close and sure: for the Bees when they awake will striue by all meanes to come forth, though they neuer finde the way in againe. Yet when there happeneth any pleasant day (namely when the sunne shineth, the winde is still, or bloweth mildly out of the South or West, and the earth is without frost & snow) it is very behouefull to giue them leaue to play, v. and to refresh them.

themselves: once in a fortnight or three weekes is to be wished, specially after *Capricorne* is past: but if you or the weather shur them in much longer, they will be so faint and feeble through their long restraint, that without very pleasant weather at their comming abroad, a number of them will be chilled while they rest themselves but a little in the open aire. And therefore as often as, for this purpose, the doore is a little opened, alter it not, vntill the weather alter: and when *Aquarius* is halfe spent, if, for feare of a piercing night-frost, you barre them vp in the euening; let them goe againe in the morning, vnlesse either snow or boysterous windes forbid you. In winter provide your Hiuies. v. n. 7.

The still Moneths of Winter being past, the new yeere entreteth with *Pisces*, the first moneth of the Spring: when the Plants begin to sprout, and the Bees to breed againe.

Now therefore, if not sooner, the weather being faire, halfe open the wickets of the better sort, and so let them stand day and night. For the night-cold, being now shorter and weaker, is not dangerous to such: and the day-cold doth them more good then hurt, causing them to lie still and spare their store, vntill it be fit time to goe abroad. But for the weaker swarmes (which are more subiect to cold, and robbing that now beginneth afresh, v.) shur them close in the euening, and open them not in the mornings vntill it be warme: and then giue them but roome for a Bee or two to passe, specially those that stand most warme in the Sunne-shine, which maketh the robbers able to endure the siege, whom otherwise the aires chilnesse would quickly discourage.

And now (the Bees beginning to breed, v.) is the time to dresse and fill their Troughs, which all the winter lay neglected.

At this time, in a morning before the Bees come much abroad, lift vp your Hiuies: and quickly sweeping the dead Bees and other noysomenesse away, and scraping cleane the stooles, set them downe againe, v. and cloome them close as before. For albeit the Bees in time would rid them cleane themselves; yet shall it be good for them to haue it done at once,

63.  
The SPRING.

64.  
PISCES.

65.  
The first faire day in *Pisces*, let the Bees at libertie.

V. c. 7. n. 27.

66  
Now dresse their Troughs.

V. c. 4. n. 12. 67  
c. 6. n. 53.

67.  
Cleave the stooles.

V. n. 26.



once, that they ben neither hindered, nor annoyed therewith: and now and then the carrying out of a dead Bee at this time of the yeere doth cost a quicke Bee hir life: for being drawne with the weight of the corps to the cold ground; while she standeth panting a little, she is chilled, and so not able to rise any more.

This cleansing of the stooles, after a calme *Aquarium*, when the Bees haue beene much abroad, is not so necessa-  
rie, and specially for the better stalls.

Those that by their lightnesse you perceiue to lacke ho-  
ney, you may now saue by feeding, v. c. 8. n. 11. or driuing  
them into others that haue store. v. c. 10. p. 1. n. 15.

*Aries* is almost as dangerous a moneth, for robbing, as  
*Virgo*: and therefore you must haue a care in the euenings to  
shut the Wickets, & in the mornings not, before it be warm,  
to halfe-open them againe: and where the drie winds and  
hot sunne haue shrunk the cloome, be carefull to fill vp the  
chinkes againe.

The poore stalls this moneth would be halfe-shut all the  
day, as in *Virgo* and *Libra*.

At *Taurus*, and sooner, if sooner you see \* cause, remo-  
uing the Barres from the better stalls, set the Wickets open:  
and for the weaker sort, let them all this moneth be shut in  
the euenings: and in the mornings, as soone as it is warme,  
be but halfe-opened.

\* That is, when either they keepe watch at the doore in the euenings, or  
be so encreased that they cannot easily passe to and fro in their worke:  
for if the passage seeme too streight onely in their playing fit, v. c. 1. n. 59.  
that maketh no matter.

At *Gemini* take away the Wickets from the better, & the  
Barres from the weaker stalls: and when this moneth is halfe  
past, make them all alike: leauing the doores as they were in  
*Gemini* before. v. n. 38.

68.  
And feede or  
driue light stails.

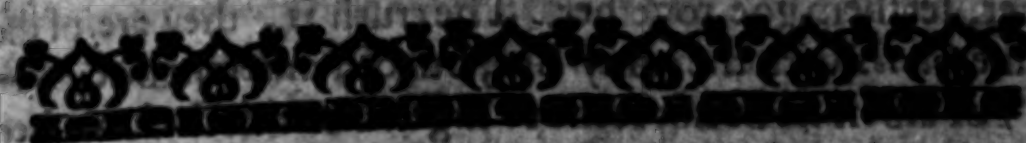
69.  
**ARIES.**

70.  
The second chiefe  
robbing time.

71.  
**IN TAURVS**  
remoue the bars.

72.  
**IN GEMINI**  
the Winter-  
doores.

CHAP.



CHAP. III.

Of the Breeding of Bees, and of the Drone.



HE Drone, which is a grosse Hine-Bee without sting, hath beene alwaies reputed a greedy lozell: (and therefore hee that is quicke at meate and slow at worke is fitted with this title) for howsoever he braue it with his round velvet cap, his side gowne, his full panch, and his lowd voice; yet is he but an idle companion, living by the sweat of others brows. For hee worketh not at all, either at home or abroad, and yet spendeth as much as two labourers: you shall neuer finde his maw without a good drop of the purest nectar. In the heat of the day he flicth abroad, aloft, and about, and that with no small noise, as though he would doe some great act: but it is onely for his pleasure, and to get him a stomach, and then returnes he presently to his cheere.

*Faci cum exennt, efferunt sese fasim in sublimi, gyroq. volitant: quod ubi satis jam feterint, redeunt domum, & epulis perfruantur.*

But for all this there is such necessary vse of him, that he may not be spared, as without whom the Bee cannot bee.

The generall opinion anent the Drone is, that he is made of a hony-Bee, that hath lost hir sting: which is even as like lie, as that a dwarfe hauing his guts pulled out, should become a gyant. Others seeing the fondnesse of this opinion, haue thought and taught that the Drone is a different species, and that as Bees breed Bees, so Drones breed Drones: which conceit (if the Author had obserued, that at the time of their breeding and many moneths before, there is not a Drone left alime to breed them) hee would haue liked as well as the

H

former,

The Drone is the Male Bee.

1. The Drone is no labourer.

Hist. an. li. 9. c. 40.

2. Divers opinions of the Drones originall.



former. These opinions then, being one as likely as another, let them goe together. The truth is, they are of the same species with the hony-Bee, but of a different Sex.

For albeit he be not seene to ingender with the hony-bee, v. either abroad, as other *insecta* doe, or within the Hiue, (where yet you may by means behold what they do;) v. yet without doubt is he the Male-Bee, by whose naturall heat and masculine vertue the hony-Bee, which breedeth both hony-Bees and Drones, v. secretly conceiuerh.

The reasons that moue me thus to thinke, are these. First, because although they be great wasters of the Bees store, yet vntill they begin to leaue breeding, and haue conceiued for the next yeere, (which some doe about *Leo*, most before *Virgo*) they suffer them; after ward they begin to beat them away. Which if some doe not, before *Scorpio* they die naturally: and from thenceforth all the Winter, vntill the Bees breed new againe, v. there is not a Drone to be had *In rerum natura*. When they are quite gone, then doe the Bees lay no more seeds that yeere, but onely hatch and breed vp those that are already in the celles.

Secondly, as the rather and the more the Drones are, the more and greater are the swarmes; (*Certe quo maior fuerit furorum multitudo, eo maior fiat examinum proventus*; v.) so where the Drones are few and late, there is small increase; and therefore if you kill the Drones of a Hiue before the Bees haue done swarming and breeding, (as some fondly haue done before Mid-summer, to saue their hony from these lazie lurchers) neither will the swarmes come forth that were formerly bred, nor the stocke thenceforth breed any more. After which time bringing in *Ambrosia*, v. as much as before, and hauing no young ones to spend part, they lay it vp carelessly in their cells, where it corrupteth and turneth to stinking stopping, v. which will cause them so much to mislike their Hiue, that the next *Virgo* they will easily yeeld to the Robbers, v. And if by your industry they be then preserued; in *Pisces*, when breeding time is, finding their wombes barren, and therefore loathing euen themselves and all, they yeeld their goods to them that will take it: and

after

3.  
The Drone is the  
Male-Bee.

V. c. 1. n. 53.  
V. c. 6. n. 6. & 7

V. n. 18.

4.  
Divers reasons  
proving the  
Drone to be the  
Male.

The first reason  
is, that they are  
suffered in breeding  
time onely.

V. n. 18. & 19.  
Nat. hist. li. 11.  
c. 11.

V. s. 3. n. 4.

5.  
The second reason  
is, that the  
Drones being taken  
away in  
breeding time,  
the Bees breed no  
more.

V. s. 6. n. 18.

V. c. 6. n. 19.  
& 20.

V. c. 7. n. 25.

W. J. L. J. L.

6.  
The third reason  
is, that they are  
bred by the Bees.

V. \* in annot.  
n 12, c.

**Deborah.**

7.  
The fourth reason is, that the wasps and dorees have drones, which are their males.

8.  
*The breeding of  
wasps by drones.*



Hist. l. 9. c. 42.

and another, increasing still in the same place till Summer be done. For they goe not forth in swarmes as Bees doe. *Missio, ut apum, nulla vel ex abronum vel vesparum fieri solet: sed qui subinde oriuntur novelli ibidem manent; & alveum, terra egesta, faciunt ampliorum.* When their breeding draweth toward an end, namely in *Virgo* and after, (besides the small or ordinary Wasps, which lie in all the vpper combs) in the last or lowest combe, made for the nonce with larger cells fit for larger bodies, they breed also two other sorts, Drones or Male-wasps (which are somewhat bigger and longer then the small Wasps, and without stings as the Drone-bees) and Mother-Wasps, which are like the small ones in all respects, save that they are twice so bigge. These when they are fledge having conceived, as the Bees, by the Drones; in *Libra*, and sometime sooner, doe flie abroad (as their Drones also doe) gathering for themselves, and searching and prying into every corner as they goe, for their Winter-lodging: and after a while, when the aire waxeth cold, leaving both Drones and small Wasps to the mercy of Winter (which with his first cold-wet wether chilleth and killeth them as they flie abroad) doe forthwith betake themselves to some warme place, as the thatch of an house, a mortice in a post, an auger-hole, or the like; but specially into hollow trees, (which is the cause, why in grounds adjoyning to Woods their nests will be most ripe) where they abide till the next spring without any meat, as it were in a dead sleepe: out of the which neuerthelesse a little warmth of the fire, or of your hand will awake them at any time. At the blowing of *Palme*, if the wether be warme, they flie abroad for food: and in *Cancer* or *Gemini*, as I have said, they begin to nestle and breed. He that killeth one of them, killeth a whole nest of Wasps.

When the old Mother-Wasp hath done breeding, and her wings are so worn, that she is not able to helpe herselfe, the little ones keepe her so long as they live together. Before the young Mother-Wasps are bred, you may easily finde her among the little ones: but when they are fledge, you cannot know her from one of them, but by her ragged wings.

And

And that the Drone-wasps are the males, some were of opinion in the daies of Aristotle: for thus he writeth; *Si vespam ex pedibus ceperis bombilareq. fiveria, advolant quae aculeo carent: quod non faciunt quae aculeata sunt.* Itaq. argumento quidam hoc utuntur quod altera mares sunt, altera feminae: which argument seemeth not vnprobable, seeing the Fowlers counterfeiting the call of the Hen-Quailes catch onely the Cocks.

Hist. li. 9. c. 41.

The Dorre likewise beginneth hir nest single, being more like the Beq then the Wasp is, in that she maketh Honie, and more vnlike in the fashion of hir Combs: for she hath onely a few round cels of the bignesse of grapes, lying flat on the ground one vpon another without any order: the which are made after this manner. First either vpon the ground in the grasse, or in some shallow hole within the ground, she prepareth a little stufte which is sofe like Wax, but browne and more brittle, of the bignesse of hir head; and therein she layeth about six or seuen seedes together, compassing them round with the same stufte: which increaseth by little and little as the seedes doe: and when they begin to liue, it groweth into so many seuerall Cells, as there are grubs, each one hauing one to himselfe. When they be come to their bignesse, the Cells, which before were browne and brittle, doe now wax white and tough, that you can scarce teare them. And when the Dorres are ripe, they gnaw their way out at the top. Vpon these they make more in like manner, and the void open Cells they fill with Honie, where with they feed both themselves and their young, when the weather suffereth them not to flie abroad. All this nest is couered with a little Mousse like a Birds-nest. Vntill *Leo* they breed females onely as the Wasps doe: and then, last of all, for propagation of their kind, they breed their Drones, being likewise, as the Drones of Bees and Wasps, without stings. And these, to put the matter out of doubt, within a moneth after when they are ripe, doe openly engender with their females, as the chaffers doe, but their mates they choose in the nest, and are carried away by them. After which time the females breed no more till the next Summer,

The breeding of  
Dorres by drones.



though you may see them gathering, and flying about somewhat longer then the Wasps. In *Sagittarius* they betake themselves to their Winter-rest, where they lie single as the Mother-Wasp in a sleepe or swiuct. But the Drone-dorres, as the Drone-wasps, are destroyed by the weather: not one afterward to be seene till next *Leo*, when the females breed new againe. But one thing in the Dorres and Wasps is more strange, then in the Bees. For whereas the Bees alsoone as they haue bred their first brood of females, doe presently breed Drones, *v.* (both which, when they are ripe, multiply together) the young Dorres and Wasps in the beginning of Summer, doe not immediatly take the Drones (for then there are none) but receiue from their dams, together with their nature and being, that Masculine seed, whereby when they are ripe they breed all the Summer following, vntill in the end they likewise conceiue by their late-bred Drones for the next yeare, both for themselves and the young that shall come of them.

F. n. 19.

10.  
The first reason is  
the apparent  
signes of their  
Sex.

11  
Aristotles Ob-  
jection answered.  
Hil. 1. 5. c. 21.  
Generat. l. 3. c.  
10.

F. n. 22.

By this time thou wilt say with me, that the Drone is the male-Bee: Whereof if some curious Chirurgion would make an Anotomie, he should easily discern *Duos amplos & candidos testes*, two lawfull witnesses of his Masculine Sex.

This truth began to appeare many yeares agoe, euen in *Aristotles* time. *Aliqui* (saith he) *mares esse fucos, foeminas vero apes esse contendunt*. Which opinion he reciteth in another place. *Sunt qui fucos mares esse, apes foeminas arbitrentur*. Where though he doe not approue it, yet hath he no other reason against it but this, *Arma ad pugnam viresq, exercendas nullis foemina à natura tribuuntur*. Nature hath armed no female for fight and force against the male: but the Bees haue power and weapon to chastice the Drones: *v.* and therefore the Drones cannot be their males.

The weaknesse of which reason I maruaile he did not see, seeing in all the kinde of \*Hawkes the female doth command the male, as being both stronger and better armed. Whereunto may bee added the example of the *Amazons* reigning in his time: who by force of armes subdued many Kingdomes of men, and held them in subiection: like vnto which,

which, it is maruaile but there were then some mankind Viragoes in Greece, as well as there be now in other Countries. Which thing, if nothing else, the experience of his Masters & Master might haue taught him.

\* The first instance is beyond exception: neither doe I see how the other can be answered, vntlesse peraduenture it be replied that such rule is against Nature.

† Aristot. his Master was Plato, whose Master was Socrates, whose Master was Xantippe that thundring thowring Queene of Shrewes. Xantippe Socrati Philosophi vxor morosa admodum fuisse fertur & iurgiosa & irarumq; molestiarum muliebrium per diem perq; noctem seatebat. A. Gellius l. 1. c. 17. Socrates, cum in eam Xantippe prius conuitia & maledicta ingessisset, postea vero & sordidis aquis perfudit, Nonne. (inquit) dicebam Xantippem tonantem quandoque pluituram? Laertius lib: 2. in vita Socratis.

But you must vnderstand that the Philosopher speaketh thus, not dogmaticke but disputatiue, onely by way of reasoning: for in the end of the same chapter he yeeldeth himselfe to haue no certaine knowledge thereof. *Non tamen satis adhuc explorata quae eveniant habemus.*

**T**O returne therefore to our purpose, the Hony-Bees hauing, as those other insects, conceiued by the Drones; the best about *Pisces* when they first gather vpon flowers, others in *Aries*, and the weaker later, begin their breeding: which is continued all the Summer, euen to the end of *Virgo*. But the chiefe time is in *Aries*, *Taurus*, and *Gemini*: which moneths yeeld *Ambrosia* the *Schadons* food, in greatest plentie, varietie and vertue.

The Bees will be sure to serue themselves first, their first generation being alwaies females: which they breed after this manner.

Close vnder the Honie ( which is at that time altogether in the vpper parts of the Combs ) in the middle of the bottomes of the void Cels, as the Wasps doe on the one side, they lay their seedes, about the bignesse of those which the Butter-flie leaues vpon the Cabage-leaues: but of different colour, the Bees being white like Wasp-seedes, and the Butter-flies yellow. And so they descend by degrees toward the neather part of the Combes, filling one Cell after another. Although when the chiefe breeding is past, they

12.  
When the Bees  
begin to breed.

13.  
The chiefe time  
of breeding.

14.  
The first breed  
are females.

15.  
The manner of  
their breeding.



16.  
The Bee-seed is  
first turned into  
a Worme.

17.  
The Worme be-  
ing dead grow-  
eth to the shape  
of a Bee and then  
liueth againe.

Hist. an. l. 3. c. 22

18.  
The breeding of  
the Lady-Bees.

they doe not precisely obserue this order, but lay vp their Honie promiscuously among the young Bees, where they finde the Cells void. The Bee-seed at the first sticketh vpon one end, vntill it be a liue Worme or Grub: as soone as it liueth it is loose, and lyeth in the bottome of the Cell round like a ring, one end touching the other, till so the bottome can no longer containe it: after that, it lieth along in the Cell till it be growen to the full bignesse of a Bee: and then doth the Worme die, and becommeth void of all motion and sense: and so is shut vp in the Cell, the Bees couering the top close with wax.

The Grub being now dead, presently beginneth the alteration from a Worme to a Bee: which, is two-fold, in shape and in colour: the first alteration in shape, is the diuision in the middle; then the other diuision betweene the head and shoulders, whence it is called *infectum*: after that, the growth of the head, legges, wings, and other parts into their shape and fashion. The first that altereth in colour from white to browne is the vpper part, and of the vpper part the head, and of the head the eyes.

The vniforme shape and white colour of the Worme, being thus altered into the proportioned shape and brownish colour of a Bee, she beginneth to moue againe, and to liue hir second life: and then breaking the couer wherewith she was inclosed in the Cell, she commeth forth a flying Bird.

*Fœtus posito incubant, exclusus inde vermiculus, dum parvus est, jacet in favo obliquus: postea sua ipse facultate se erigit, cibumq; capit. Fœtus apum & fucorum candidus est: ex quo vermiculi fiunt, qui in apes fucosq; transeunt.* And all this within the space of a moneth. Yea in swarming-time, when the Hives haue more heat, partly from the aire, and partly from the multitude of Bees; when also the *Schadans* neuer want their fill of *Nectar*, *Ambrosia*, and faire water continually brought in fresh and fresh vnto them; I haue knowne this effected in three weekes: although *Plinie* speakes of more then twice so long a time. *Fœtus intra 45. diem peragitur.*

But the Lady-bees are bred in the seuerall Palaces of the  
Queene,

Queene, v. after a peculiar and more excellent manner. For the golden matter whereof they are made, is not turned in to a Worme at all; but immediately receiveth the shape of a Bee. *Primordium regum colore ceruleo fulvo, corpulentia mellis crassioris, magnitudine ilico proxima sua futurae scabulis nec primum ex eo vermiculus gignitur, sed statim apu. Item, Higinius negat ex vermiculo, ut ceteras apes, fieri ducem; sed in circuitu favorum paulo maiora, quam sint plebei semina, inveniri: foramina repleta quasi sordis rubri coloris, ex qua proterunt alatus rex figuratur.*

When the old Bees have ended their first broods of females, then last of all after the same manner in wider Cells made for the nonce, v. they breed the Male-bees or Drones: as was long since observed, *Sunt fuci sine consilio velut imperfecta apes, novissimeq. a fessis & jam emeritis inchoate, serotinus fetus.* And therefore some stalls doe not dronie before Cancer, not many before Gemini, nor any before Taurus: although you may see the Nymphes of good stalls abroad in Aries, of others in Taurus, and of all in Gemini. By chance some few Cephens may be bred betime with the femals: but they, as comming out of season, are not suffered to live.

\* The young Bees are called Schadons: *Schadones sibiilem dico. Hist. l. 1. c. 22.* The brood of females, when they have the shape of Bees, are called Nymphs, and the young Drones Cephens: *Cetera turba, cum formam capere capit, Nympha vocantur, ut fuci Cephens. Pl. li. 11. c. 11.*

These Cephens or Drones, when they are fledged, doe not onely serve for generation; (as hath beene shewed) but also doe helpe the females much, by reason of their great heat, in hatching their broods. *In factu adjuvant apes, multum ad calorem conferente turba.* And for these causes they are alwaies in breeding-time mingled with them throughout the Hive. Although afterward (when they have beene much beaten, and can goe no where single, but one or other will be on their jacks) they gather all together in a cluster, for their safetie in one side of the Hive: so that it is true at some time which the Philosopher spake indefinitely, *Tenent alibi locum penitiores.* And yet their hanging together will not

V. c. 6. n. 11. & 12.

Hist. l. 1. c. 22.

Colum. l. 9. c. 11.

19.  
When the Drones are bred.

V. c. 6. n. 10.

Nat. hist. li. 11. c. 11.

20.  
When they come abroad.

21  
Two uses of the Drones.

Nat. hist. li. 11. c. 11.

22.  
Where they lye.

Hist. l. 9. c. 49.



23.  
The male Bees  
are subject to  
the females.  
Nat. hist. li. 11.  
cap. 21.

serve their turne: for the Bees, when they are disposed, will quickly make them part, and depart. When there is no use of them, there will be no roome for them.

For the Drones are but vassals to the Honie-bees: which as they doe excell them in vertue and goodnesse, so doe they also in power and authoritie, ruling and ouer-ruling them at their pleasures. *Sunt quasi seruiti verarum apum: quambrem imperant ijs.* For albeit generally among all creatures the males, as more worthy, doe master the females; yet in these, the females haue the preeminence: and, by the Gram-marians leaue, the Feminine gender is more worthy then the Masculine, *Hec apes* then *hic fucos*, *hec Nymphas* then *hic Cephen*. But let no nimble tongued Sophisters gather a false conclusion from these true premisses, that they, by the example of these, may arrogate to themselves the like superioritie: for *Ex particulare non est syllogizare*, and he that made these to command their males, commanded them to be commanded. But if they would so faine haue it so, let them first imitate their singular virtues, their continuall industry in gathering, their diligent watchfulnesse in keeping, their temperance, chastitie, cleanlinesse, and discreet oeconomic, &c. And then, if they meete with such dull Lubbers as these Drones are; they may with lesse blame borrow a point of the Law, and enioy their longing. Yet when they haue it, let them vse poore Skumington as gently as they may; especially in publike, to hide his shame.

And this they may note by the way, that albeit the females in this kinde haue the Spueraignrie, yet haue the males the lower voice: as it is in other liuing things, Doues, Owls, Thrushes, &c. the males being knowne by their sounding and shrill notes from the silent females. Yea the wines themselves will not suffer the Men to lue, which presumeth to crow as the Cock doth: nature teaching, that silence and soft noise becommeth that Sex.

24.  
When the Bees  
leave breeding,  
and beat away  
their Drones.

The Bees breeding or laying of seeds beginneth to cease, in some by *Leo*, in some not before *Virgo*. After which time these *Amazonian Dames*, hauing conceived for the next yeare, begin to wax wearie of their mates, and to like their roome

room better then their company. At first not quite forgetting their old familiaritie, they gently give them Tom Doves entertainment: they that will not take that for a warning, but presume to force in againe among them, are more shrewdly handled. You may sometime see a handfull or two before a Hiue, which they had killed within: but the greatest part flyeth away, and dieth abroad.

\* Amazones bellicosæ erant Scythiæ mulieres, quæ cum viris exulantes in Cappadociæ ora juxta amnem Thermodonia confederunt: ubi, viris plerisque per insidias acceolarum trucidatis, reliquos qui domi remanserant, ut ipsæ solæ rerum potirentur, interficiunt: & armis sumptis etiam cum contemptu hostium se strenue tuentur, & imperium longe lateque in Europam & Asiæ partem tandem proferunt. Ne vero genus periret, finitimis tanquam maritis utuntur: quos officio functos abigunt: Atque quæ parvæ virgines fovent, & armis exercent; masculos vero duræ enecant: unde eas Æorpatæ i. Viricidæ appellant Scythiæ, ut tradit Herodot. l. 4. Primæ harum regina Marthesia vel Marpesia dicebatur: quæ plures quidem peperit filias, Antiopen, Orithyam, Menalippen, & Hypoliten: è quibus duæ majores natæ matri successerunt, cæteræ imperium non sunt adeptæ. Amazonum itaque regnum apud rempublicam aptissime refert: Marpesia apud reginam quæ plures solet producere fortis: Antiopæ & Orithyæ primores filias, quæ primum & secundum examen educunt, ipsæque moderantur: Menalippe & Hypolite eas principes quæ aut nequam aut nequicquam dominantur. Nam post secundum examen aut in alveis morantes morte mulcuntur, aut egressæ sese fame pereunt, v. c. 8. a. 4. Variisq; etiam populi mores non minus conveniunt: nam & apes feminæ sunt bellicosæ, quæ non modo Europam & quandam Asiæ partem, ut illæ, sed universa orbis terrarum imperia possident: quæ sui sexus prolem summa itidem cura enutrientes, mares omnes tam viros quam filios credere solent: ut & ipsæ vere Æorpatæ dici possint.

But because in the same Hiue they doe not leave breeding all at once; therefore neither doe they kill their Drones all at once: but at the first taking away onely the superfluous, they suffer as many as they need, to remaine longer: some sometime a whole moneth after.

The forward stockes, that have cast their last swarme in *Gemini* or soone after, begin at *Leo*: yea of those in the beginning of *Gemini* some somewhat sooner, the backward, that cast not their last swarme much before *Leo*, may stay till the end of the same moneth: but vsually about *Virgo*, or a weeke after, they make a cleane riddance of them.

25.  
The Bees compared to the Amazons.

7. c. 1. 8. 73

26.  
They rid not their Drones all at once.

27.  
When forward stocks begin.

28.  
When the backward.



29.  
When full stockes  
that have not  
swarmed.

30.  
When those that  
are overswarmed

31.  
Sometime the  
Bees cast out  
even the white  
Cephens.

32.  
Timely ridding  
of Drones a good  
signe.

33.  
Sometime they  
rid their Drones  
in the Spring.

34.  
And afterward  
breed new again.

35.  
Sometime it is  
good to helpe the  
Bees in this work.

Those stockes that being full have not swarmed at all, be-  
cause they are rich and feare no want, vse to suffer them so  
long and sometime longer, even to the end of this month.  
Those that have over-swarmed themselves, finding their  
paucitie and weaknesse, wax desperate and carelesse of their  
estate: and therefore sometime keepe their Drones till to-  
ward the end of *Virgo*, sometime kill them not at all: but let  
them alone, vntill they die by nature: which is not long  
after. For few of them can live till *Libra*, and the youngest  
not to the end of that moneth. Take heed to such stalls,  
for they are likely to die.

Some are so prouident, that, to prevent this trouble and  
save their Honie, they draw the poore Cephens out of their  
Cells before they be ripe, or come to their second life. Such  
you may safely trust.

Those that soonest rid their Drones, are likely to be for-  
wardest the next yeare.

Sometime the Drones are beaten away in the Spring. For  
when forward stails (which in their heat are bold to fly a-  
broad when others dare not wagge) have lost many of their  
Nymphes in a tempestuous and stormie Spring; they will  
therefore destroy their Drones also. But hauing formerly con-  
cerned by them, they then begin the world anew, as after  
an other Winter: and first breeding Nymphs, in the end  
they breed Cephens againe. Which if they can compasse  
before swarming time be past, they will swarme that yeare:  
otherwise they will be fat and full, and excellent good either  
to keepe or kill.

Because the stockes that haue cast often, doe beare with  
their Drones so long, although there be twice so many as bee  
needfull for the Bees that are leafe; therefore (to save the Ho-  
nie which those Wolmores would deuoure) it is not amisse to  
prevent the Bees, and presently after the last swarme to dimi-  
nish their number, with a Drone put cloomed to the doore:  
specially of them you meane to take, or see much oppress-  
with superfluous multitude, &c. 3. 1. 49.



CHAP. V.

Of the Swarming of Bees, and the  
Hiving of them.



HE stocks having bred and filled their  
blives doe send forth swarmes. A swarme  
doth consist of all such parts as the stocke  
doth: namely of a Queene-bee, Honie-  
bees as well old as young, and Drones  
bees.

1.  
The parts of a  
swarme.

If any man desire to see the Queene,  
he hath now opportunitie, when she goeth forth with her  
swarme: v. and dead ones bee may finde many before the  
stoole, when the stocks haue cast their last swarmes, v. and  
also when many meet in one swarme. v. c. 2. v. 7. But then,  
being dead and shrunke together by the force of the poison,  
they lose much of their stature and comeliness.

2.  
When you may  
see the Queene  
Bee.  
V. n. 34.  
V. n. 35.

Men thinke that the swarme consisteth onely of young  
Bees, and that the old Bees onely sticke behinde: but indeed  
(though it may seeme strange) the swarme is no younger  
then the stocke: for there are in both of both sorts. The  
young Bees remaine in the stock with the old for their de-  
fence, and for the greatest labours; v. and the old ones goe  
with the young in the swarme for their aid and guidance in  
their worke.

3.  
The swarme no  
younger then the  
stocke.

The Drones they take with them for propagation of their  
kinde. v. And therefore those swarmes that haue many  
Drones will surely prosper: and if they be rather will swarme  
again, vnlesse they bee ouer-hiued: whereas those that  
haue few or none, will increase little or nothing all the Sum-  
mer after.

V. c. 1. n. 57.

V. c. 4. n. 3.

4.  
Many Drones in  
a swarme a good  
signe.

5.  
A kinde Spring  
for swarmes.

A warme, calme, and showring spring causeth many and  
rather



V. c. 7. n. 60.

Hist. l. 4. c. 12.

80

V. c. 4. n. 13.

V. c. 6. n. 38. 39.

81.

V. c. 10. p. 1. &amp;

ij. &amp; iij. n. 3.

V. c. 8. n. 5.

rather swarms, though sudden stormes doe hinder them. v.

*Augent mellas floritates, sobolem imbres.*

\* Dry weather makes plenty of hony, and † moist of swarms. But note that the chiefe time for breeding swarms is the Spring, v. and for hony-gathering the Summer: v. so that when a dry Summer followeth a moist Spring, the Bee-folds are rich. If the Summer be also moist, the increase of Bees will be greater: but, because of the scarcity of hony, this increase will prooue a decrease: the more swarms you haue at the end of this Summer, the fewer stalls shall you haue at the beginning of the next. For, except some faire rather swarms, and some good stockes, which cast berimes or not at all, they die all for hunger; when they haue spent their owne pittance, and spoiled their fellowes. How to prevent this pouerty, see note 1. & 2. in 20. and to prevent the losse & spoile that would come thereof, take the light stockes, together with the small and late swarms, v. feed the midling sort, v. and be sure they be not over-hiued. v. n. 45.

\* The reason is, that in hot and drie weather the hony dewes are raised, and the aduentitious moisture is drained from the flowers, the pure naturall nioce onely being leaft in them: of both which they gather all the day long without interruption.

† The reason is, that the weather keeping them in, they can doe nothing but breed and hatch their schadons: and when they goe abroad, they bring in grosse Bee meate, *Ambrosia* and water, wherewith to feed them; but can finde nothing fit to lay vp in store. So that moist weather giues them two causes of swarming, plenty of Bees, and penury of hony: the one makes them able, the other willing: and then neither winde, nor cloud, nor raine can stay them. Whereas in times of plenty it is otherwise. v. n. 20.

6.

Swarming weather.

V. n. 20.

7.

The swarming  
houres.

Likewise, in warme and calme weather the swarms delight to arise, but specially in a heat-gleame, after that a showre or gloomie cloud hath sent them home together: in extreme hot and dry weather not so: v. in so much that stalls being full and ready to swarme with the first, are sometime so kept backe with cold dry windes in *Gemini*, and with extreme heat and drought in *Cancer*, that they haue not swarmed at all that yeere.

The swarms vse to come forth betweene the houres of  
nine

nine and three, and sometime an houre sooner or later: but chiefly betweene eleuen and one. They choose rather the fore-noone, if the weather please them: otherwise they will stay for a faire houre in the after-noone. This time of the day therefore, in the swarming months, your Bees must continually be attended.

The swarming moneths are two, *Gemini* and *Cancer*: one moneth before the longest day, and an other after.

In some very backward yerres, such as was 1631. & 1632. there haue bin swarmes a weeke in *Leo*, which did well, (the Bramble, that was wont to be a fortnight or three weekes rather, v. not blowing before that time:) Likewise in warme Countries in a kinde Spring, some haue come somewhat before *Gemini*, but this also is rare.

Those that come before the Solstice, in the ascending of the Sunne, are rathe swarmes. Those that come after, in his descending, are late swarmes. But there are few that come in the first fortnight, and they very good: few also in the last fortnight, namely after *S. Peters*-ride, and they all as bad: vnlesse the backwardnesse of the yeere, when it happeneth, doe mend them.

Note heere that in the Heath-countries, swarmes are usually lateward, namely in the latter part of *Cancer* and the forepart of *Leo*: which some yeeres proue better then the rathe.

Those that swarme before the blowing of knap-weed, come in very good time: before the blowing of blackberies, v. they may liue and doe well: but blackbery-swarmes, specially castlings, are seldome to be kept, as being more likely to die then to liue: and if they liue, they seldome swarme the next yeere. And moreover they weaken the stocks from whence they came, which otherwise the next yeere would swarme berime: and then one such swarme is worth three of those lateward ones. Wherefore put such backe againe into the stocke: which you may easily doe, so soone as they are hived, by knocking them downe ypon a table close to the doore: their fellowes that are behinde will soone be in with them. And if they rise againe, serue them so till they cease. But if you spie them rising before the *Queene* be come forth, shut them in a while, and that will stay them.

8.  
The two swarming moneths.

7. c. 6. n.  
39.

9.  
Rathe swarmes.  
10.  
Late swarmes.

7. c. 6. n. 39.  
11.  
Black-berie swarmes are seldome to be kept.



12.

A prime swarme  
and an after-  
swarme.

A good stocke doth naturally and vsually cast twice, a prime swarme, and an after-swarme: specially if the prime swarme be so rathe, that the casting may come before the bramble-buds be open: yea and rathe prime swarmes notouer-hiued, in a plentifull yeere may swarme once or twice: although some full stalls doe not cast once, some but once, and some hauing many princes (specially when the prime-swarm is broken) doe cast three or foure times. For sometime it happeneth that, in the swarming, a blacke cloud rising stayeth part of them that are already come forth, and lie about the hives-doore: sometime when they are all vp, either fearing a cloud, or disliking the lighting-place, or being troubled in the hiving, part doth returne.

14

Diuers causes of  
breaking the  
prime swarme.

One prime-swarme is worth two or three after-swarmes, except it be broken: and then if the residue come forth in one entire swarme, that after-swarme may bee the better of the twaine: but if it be diuided into two or three, then will they all be but indifferent: such, except they be timely, or united, v. can hardly liue till the next Summer.

N. n. 67. &amp; 68.

16.

The vulgar Bees  
appoint the vi-  
sing of the fore-  
swarmes, & that  
vpon 4. grounds.

The choice of the time when the first colonies, or prime-swarmes shall go forth, the rulers referre vnto the commons: who by reason of their continuall travell and businesse both without and within, doe best know when all things are ready and fit for them: First within they will be sure that they haue a Prince ready to goe with them: for without a Gouvernour they will not be, v. Then that their Hiue be full, so that it may be diuided at the least into two or three sufficient companies: one to remaine with *Marpes* the old Queene, an other to go forth with *Antiope* the Prince, and a third haplie, which, together with the vnripe brood in the cels, may make an other swarme to serue *Orithya*. Without likewise they will see, first that the flowers be in state presentlie to furnish them with store of wax and hony: then that the weather do please them, as being warme and calme, & moist: vnlesse, being continually vnseasonable, they haue no choice.

17.

Five signes of the  
first swarming.

V. 64. n. 20.

When the Hives begin to be full, they will dropie, or yeeld forth fledge-drones: v. which is a signe that the first brood

brood of nymphes haue beene a good while flying abroad, and are now able to endure both weather and labour.

Other signes of the Hives fulnesse and readinesse to swarme are at the Hiue-doore, First, the Bees howering in cold euenings and mornings. Secondly, the moistnesse or sweating vpon the stoole. Thirdly, their hasty running vp & downe. Fourthly, their first lying forth in foggy and sultrie mornings & euenings, & going in again when the aire is cleere.

When they will swarme, sometime they first gather together without at the doore, not onely vpon the Hiue, but vpon the stoole also: where when you see them begin to hang one vpon another in swarming time, and not before, and to grow into a Cluster that couereth the stoole in any place; (specially if there be Drones among them) then be sure they will presently rise, if the weather hold. The first that come forth wil increse that Cluster to some fourth part of the swarme: and then begin they to flie away, first out of the Hiue, and after from the Cluster. But commonly some few of them doe first flie forth and play to & fro the Hiue-doore, so to till out more company vnto them: and when by this meanes they haue gotten out so many, that you may see them begin to dance v above the Hiue; then doe they hastilie illue forth and swarme.

But heere you must note, that as to fill the Doore, or to lie forth a little now and then in foggie or sultrie mornings and euenings, (which is because then they are most offended by heat within, and can best indure the aire abroad) and otherwise to go in againe, is a signe that the Hiue is full, and therefore ready to swarme; so to lie forth continually (as in extreme hot and dry summers they vse to doe) vnder the stock or behinde the hiue, &c. (specially after Cancer is come in) is a signe and cause of not swarming. For the Bees, knowing by nature that the greatest companies doe prosper best, vntill they finde themselves so pestred with heat and throng of multitudes, that the Hiue can scarce hold any more, will haue no mind to swarme: and when they haue once taken to lie forth, the hiue will alwaies seem empty, as though they wanted company.

One cause of their lying forth, is stormie and windie weather

18.  
The signes of present swarming.

V. 34.

19.  
To lie forth continually is a signe they will not swarme

20.  
The causes of their lying forth.



ther, not suffering them to swarme when they are ready : for when their number is growne so great through their continuall breeding, that the Hiue cannot hold them, seeing they may not swarme, they must needs, for want of aire & roome within, lie without : which when they haue once caught, they will hardlie leaue: and the longer they lie out, the lother they are to swarme.

An other cause of their lying forth, is continuall hot and drie weather, specially after the Solstice : which causing plentie of hony both in plants and dewes, their mindes are so set vpon that their chiefe delight;

Virg.

(*Tantus amor florum, & generandi gloria mellis*)

that they haue no leisure to swarme : although they might most safelie come abroad in such weather, which would not suffer the weakeft Nymph to fall.

And when by continuance of such honie-weather they are once sufficientlie prouided, they will then be loth to leaue the sweet fruits of their labours, and to change their full store-houses for that which makes giddie House-wiues. But if they haue once begun a combe without where they lie, the matter is out of doubt. Whereas contrarily in wet and scanty Summers, no weather will stay them from swarming as soone as they are readie : although by that meanes (vnlesse they be rathe, or the weather sodainelie mend) most as well of the stockes as swarmes are like to die for hunger: v. and therefore, as neere as you can, so \* order the matter, that your swarmes may come betime. For rathe swarmes and their stocks, that haue the summer before the, proue alwaies good.

V. n. 5.

\* By hauing faire and fat young stockes, in a good standing, not overhined, and well kept.

21.

The remedy and meanes to make them swarme.

But for those stockes, which not swarming in *Gemini* happen afterward to lie forth, this may be a remedy.

First keep the Hiue as coole as may be, by watering and shadowing both it, and the place where it standeth: and then enlarging the doore to giue them aire (alwaies prouided that there be no backe-doore in the shadie parts of the Hiue) moue the cluster gentlie with your Brush, and driue them in.

If yet they lie forth and swarme not, (though they haue had fit weather two or three daies) then the next calme and warme day, betweene 11. and 1. of the clocke, or within an houre sooner or later, (when the Sunne shineth, and you see

no clouds comming to hide it) put in the better part, at the least, of them that lie out, with your Brush; and the rest gentle sweep away from the stoole, not suffering any to cluster againe. These rising in the calme heat of the Sunne, and flying about before the Hiue, will make such a noyse, as if they were swarming; which their fellowes hearing, will happlie come forth vnto them, and so begin to swarme.

If this doe not serue, but that returning to the Hiue they lie forth againe; then reare the Hiue high enough to let them in, and cloome vp the skirts all but the doore.

But if notwithstanding all this they doe not swarme; then assure your selfe that either they haue no Prince bred to goe forth with them, or else they are fat and full of honie, which they are resoluèd not to leaue.

And then if it be before Mid-Cancer, & the hony-weather hold; your best way is to double the stall, by turning the skirt of the Hiue vpward, and setting a leere prepared Hiue fast vpon it: into which they will ascend, and worke and breed there as well as in the old. v. In the end of *Virgo* driue them all into the new Hiue, (which then, if the weather haue held good, will be full of wax and hony) and take the olde for your labour. But if Mid-Cancer and the hony-dewes be past, (because they want time and meanes to store the void Hiue) let them stand: such a stall will be verie good to be taken; or, being young, to be kept. v. But first replenish some ouer-swarmer with his excesse or lying out (specially if you meane to take him) thus.

When all hope of their swarming is past; in some euening (while it is yet light) holding a Hiue vnder those that lie out, cut them off from the stoole with a \* tight thread: and carrying them to an ouer-swarmer that you would mend, knock them downe on a Table close before his Hiue: into which, because they come without a Prince, they are quietly admitted, and quickly vnited vnder one common Commander.

The manner of doubling a stall is this: Having first measured the Hiue about in the largest place, provide a leere spleetered Hiue of the same size and compasse: make ready also two square stickes 13. or 14. inches long; and an inch thicke at one end, and halfe an inch at the other: these two

3

22.

What is to be done to those that by no means will swarme.

V. n. 24.

V. 10. p. 1. n. 3.

23.

How to replenish an ouer-swarmer.

\* Held straight betweene two hands.

24.

How to double a stall.



sticks lay parallel ouer the hiue five or six inches apart, and each of them a like distance from the middle of the Hiue, with both the thicke ends one way to size out the doore for this doubled stall: and so tie them with needle and thread to the skirts fast in their places. These stickes doe also serue to keepe the Hiue from slipping, and to save the Bees, that otherwise might be prest to death betweene the two skirts. Then in a faire night, so soon as it is dark, reare the full Hiue with three holsters, two on the West side, and one on the East, some foure or five inches high, (or with a double rest) to let the Bees in: and couer both it and the stoole with a large Mantle. Then make a Brake behinde the stoole of foure stakes, 2. two foot, and 2. foure foot long, pitched fast in distance equall, and fit to containe the full Hiue: which you may be sure of by fitting it to the leere Hiue, being of the same compasse. One of the short stakes set close to the middle of the backe of the stoole, the other Northward opposite to it: one of the long ones on the West part, and the other on the East. Then right in the middle, betweene the stakes, digge a hole in the ground halfe a foot deepe; and of such compasse, that being halfe filled with a wisp of straw, it may firly receiue the top of the Hiue, and so the Hiue may stand vpright and fast in the Brake. Then pare away the inner edges of the tops of the short stakes, that the Hiue in the setting downe may not stay against them: and taking vp the West-stake, sticke it by you.

The Brake.

P. 1. 1. n. 40.

These things thus prepared, your selfe standing on the West side of the Brake, and your assistant on the same side of the stoole at your right hand, (both in your complete harnesse) v: let the assistant take hold of the Hiue, & yeelding the top toward his breast, reare the fur-side of the skirt from the East-bolster. When you see it fitting, embracing the hiue as neere the skirt as you may, lift it vp sheere from the other two bolsters, and set it downe warily in the middle of the Brake, with the top in the hole as vpright as you can, and the doore to the backer part of the stoole, that it may stand South-ward as it did before. And presently let your assistant, being readie, place the leere prepared hiue euen vpon it, with the thick ends of the stickes South-ward: and doe you

you put the long stake into his place againe. Then cloome the Hiues together with rolles, flatted, that none of the cloome fall in among the Bees, leauing open the space betweene the sticks ends for the new doore of this double hieue. Lastly put on the hackle, and gird both it and the long stakes to the leere-hiue, about the middle with a Belt, and about the top with a With. And so let them stand till after the end of the *Dog-daies*, when Bees are taken. v. But in no case let the doing hereof be deferred beyond the time prescribed, v: lest you haue little or nothing for your labour.

*V. c. 10. p. 1. n. 1.*

*V. n. 12.*

25.

*How to driue all the Bees into the new hieue, and so to take the old.*

At the Vindemie, in a faire calme morning before any Bees be abroad, shut vp close all the stalls in your Garden: and those that stand next couer with sheetes and blankets, lest some of the younger sort mistake, and carrie at their doores till they be chilled. And when the Sunne is an houre high, and the aire waxeth warme, hauing first parted the new Combs and the old with a long knife, take off the vpper hieue or *Receiuer*, & set him vpon the stoole in the old place: By 1 be sure, &c. as it followeth, c. 10. p. 1. n. 15. If you see the *Receiuer* be very fat, or feare the *Queene* be hurt, or not in the *Receiuer*; your best and safest way is to take them both: for if they be ouer-fat or want a Ruler, vndoubtedly they will not prosper.

26.

*The signes of after swarms.*

The signes of after-swarms are more certaine. For whereas the rising of the prime swarme is appointed by the vulgar, whose chiefe rule is the fulnesse of the Hiue; the Hiue being now well empied, for other swarms there needeth some other direction, which the Rulers themselues doe giue by their voices: without which that stocke will swarme no more that yeare. And yet the choice of the houre, yea and of the day among foure or fise is permitted vnto them, as best knowing the disposition of the weather.

27.

*The rising of the after-swarms is appointed by the Rulers.*

When the prime swarme is gone ( if the stocke shall cast any more ) the eighth or ninth euening after, sometime the tenth or eleuenth, the next Prince, when she perceiuerh a competent number to be fledge and readie, beginneth to tune in hir treble voice a mournfull and begging note, as if she did pray hir *Queene-mother* to let them goe. Vnto which voice if the *Queene* vouchsafe to reply, tuning hir

28.

*The Bees Musick*



V. n. 36.

29.

The Princes  
part.

*Base* to the young Princes *Treble*, (as commonly she doth, though sometime scarcely intreated in a day or two) then doth she consent. And therefore, vnlesse foule weather stay them till it bee too late, v: you may assuredly looke for a swarme. Which seldome ariseth the next day, although the weather be verie pleasant; or the next day, vnlesse the weather bee verie pleasant: but after the third nights warning, they will accept indifferent weather, such as the prime-swarmes will not come abroad in. And as the *Queenes* voice is a grant, so hir silence is a flat deniall: the *Prouerbe* heere hath no place, *Qui tacet consentire videtur*: For without this Consent there is no Consent.

This song being contained within the compasse of an *Eight* from *C-sol-fa-ut* to *C-sol-fa*, the Prince composeth hir part within the foure vpper *Cliefes* *G, A, B* and *C* vsually in triple moode, beginning with an odde *Minim* in *G-sol-re-ut*, and tuning the rest of hir notes, whereof the first is a *Semibriefe*, in *A-la-mi-re*. Sometime she taketh a higher key, sounding the odde *Minim* in *A-la-mi-re*, and the rest in *B-fa-b-mi*. Sometime, specially toward their comming forth, she riseth yet higher to *C-sol-fa*, holding the time of three or foure *Semibriefes*, more or lesse. Now and then shee beginneth in duple time some two or three *Semibriefes*, but alwaies endeth with *Minims* of the triple Moode.

30.

The *Queenes*  
part.

The *Queenes* part, contained within the foure lower *Cliefes*, consisteth of *Minims* altogether in triple moode; commonly in *Fa-fa-ut*, sometime in *C-sol-fa-ut*, sometime in the other two *Cliefes* betweene them: continuing hir tune the time of nine or ten *Semibriefes* more or lesse.

31.

The other Ladies  
parts.

Sometime a third *Princesse* imitating the *Queenes* voice in time, though differing haply in tune, ioyneth with them, the more, with their full noise, to incite the swarme to goe, that hir turne may come the sooner. And sometime a fourth also interposeth hir *Minims* to fill vp the *Quire*. But none dare counterfeite the voice of the chiefe Prince, for that were treason to hir person (and yet sometime one of them, in hope to part the swarme, will steale out with hir:) which, if the swarme be not parted, or being parted be put together, costeth her hir life v: as well as the liues of some of hir followers.

V. c. 1. n. 7.

lowers. Notwithstanding each of these, when hir elder sister is gone, and hir turne next, changeth hir note, begging in *Orythias* tune leaue to be gone too: which as sometime the Queene granteth vnasked, beginning first hir selfe; so sometime by hir silence she denieth, though mournfully intreated: and then the swarme tarieth, and the poore Ladie must die.

With these various and harmonious notes, answering one an other, and some pawses betweene, they goe solemnly round about the Hiue, so to giue warning vnto all the company. This they continue daily vntill their swarming: but you may heare them best euenings and mornings. Which Musicke as it cannot but please and delight them that listen to it; so must it be most sweet and pleasant to the young Prince hir selfe, vnto whom therby is proclaimed a Warrant, not onely of hir life, but of a Kingdome also: both which otherwise she were sure to lose.

In this *Melissomelos*, or Bees Madrigall, Musicians may see the grounds of their Art: first their *Modes*, sometime the triple or imperfect of the more, sometime the duple or imperfect of the lesse: then the tunes of the six notes, *ut, re, mi, fa, sol, la*; whereof the Queene soundeth the first foure, and the Prince the other two, together with the doubling of *fa-sol* in two higher Cliefes, to make vp the full *Eight*: and lastly the six Concords, an imperfect *Third*, a perfect *Third*, a *Diatessaron*, a *Diapente*, a *Sixt*, and a *Diapason*. And if any man dislike the harshnesse of the *Seconds* and *Seuenths*, which now and then hir among them; he sheweth himselfe no experienced Artist, which knoweth not that as well in *Musick* as *Oeconomick*, there must sometime be *Discords*: yea and that in either they haue their laudable vse, as seruing to make sweet Concords the sweeter. So that if *Musicke* were lost, it might be found with the *Muses* Birds.

The seuerall parts of whose Song comprizing these mentioned notes, with pauses interposed (as I haue at seuerall times by a Winde-instrument, whose notes can neither rise nor fall, attentiuely obserued) I thought good heere to prick downe, that you may see in them all these particulars of their Naturall Art. Onely I cannot altogether warrant the Conclusion: because in that confused noise, which the buzzing Bees in the busie time of their departing doe make, my dull hearing could not perfectly apprehend it: so that I was faine to make yo that, as I could. But I am sure, if I misse,

32.  
In the Bees song  
are the grounds  
of Musicke.

Var. 1. 3. c. 45.  
P. 1. 3. c. 45.



Harke, harke, we thinke I heare in Notes of choice,  
 This faire, I thinke I heare in Notes of choice,  
 Dost march along.  
 This Arme royall gallantly  
 Some choulders strong  
 And then, when the time they cry,  
 His mountrull suit a joyfull end doth take:  
 To sweetest Treble unning sweeter Base:  
 Vouchsafe with this Alped reply to make,  
 To whole graue accents if his Princely Grace

and Ori- thy's faire, VVish o- ther Princes his In- fantes are.  
 Their paine-got goods in pleasure storne to vvasht,  
 most tender and most chaste,  
 and Ori- thy's faire, VVish o- ther Princes his In- fantes are.  
 When so increased is this prudent Nation,  
 That their owne limits cannot them suffice;  
 To seeke new Cities, for new habitation,  
 They send abroad their num'rous Colonies:  
 Antiope the prime Prince gone,  
 Ormbysa soone  
 Of hir Queene-mother, making mone,  
 Begs the like boone:  
 That with hir traine hir fortune she may seeke:  
 And thus she sings in measures mournfull sweete.

MEANE  
 I.  
 A S of all states the Monarchie is best, So of all Monarchies that Ee- mi- nine, Of  
 They vwork in common for the common vveale: Their labour's restlesse to maintaine their states: Their  
 famous Amazons excels the rest, That on this earthie Sphære haue euer bin, VVhose lit- tle hearts in  
 Hexa- gonias no Be-za- leell, for curious Art may passe, or imitate, One Sou'raign and but  
 weaker sex ( so great in field) No power of the mightiest Males can make to yeeld: They living ayre  
 one commands this people loyall, the great Marpesse vvith plenty blest of issue roy- all: An- ti- o- pe.

most tender and most chaste, Their paine-got goods in pleasure storne to vvasht,  
 and Ori- thy's faire, VVish o- ther Princes his In- fantes are.

When so increased is this prudent Nation,  
 That their owne limits cannot them suffice;  
 To seeke new Cities, for new habitation,  
 They send abroad their num'rous Colonies:  
 Antiope the prime Prince gone,  
 Ormbysa soone  
 Of hir Queene-mother, making mone,  
 Begs the like boone:  
 That with hir traine hir fortune she may seeke:  
 And thus she sings in measures mournfull sweete.

And this the first invention of the world  
That with his trine the may look  
Begs the like doom  
Of his Queene-mother, making more  
Orpheus looke  
Among the Prince of Rome  
They lead abroad their rum'rous Colonies  
To seek new Climes, for new habitation  
That their own limits cannot suffice  
When so increased is this prudent Nation  
And Orpheus, with his eyes, VVish o-ther Princes his in-fan-ces are

Musical notation for the first system, featuring a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes.

weaker sex (so great in field) No power of the mightiest Maies can make to yeeld: They living ay, one commands this people loyall, the great Marpete wish plenty blest of issue roy- all: An- ti- o- pe

musical notation for the second system, continuing the melody from the first system.

musical notation for the third system, continuing the melody.

musical notation for the fourth system, continuing the melody.

musical notation for the fifth system, continuing the melody.

musical notation for the sixth system, continuing the melody.

musical notation for the seventh system, continuing the melody.

musical notation for the eighth system, continuing the melody.

musical notation for the ninth system, continuing the melody.

musical notation for the tenth system, continuing the melody.

A S of all Rates the Monarchie is best, So of all Monarchies that Fe- mi- nine, Of They work in common for the common weale: Their labour's redde to maintaine their state: Their

famous Amazons excels the rest, That on this earthie Sphere have euer bin, VVhose lit- tle heere in Hexa- gonis no Be-za- leell, for curious way passe, or imitate, One Sou- raig- n and but

weaker sex (so great in field) No power of the mightiest Maies can make to yeeld: They living ay, one commands this people loyall, the great Marpete wish plenty blest of issue roy- all: An- ti- o- pe,

most sober and most chaste, Their paine got goods in pleasure scorne to waste, and Ori- stja- fates, VVish o- ther Princes his in- fan-ces are:

II To whose graue accents if his Princely Grace Vouchsafe with Trine Aspect reply to make, To sweetest Treble naming sweeter Base; Hir mournfull suit a joyfull end doth take: And then, when for time they espy, Some thousands strong This Armie regall gallantly Doth march along. Harke, harke, me thinkes I heare in Notes of choice, This fairest Ladies sweetest mournfull voice.



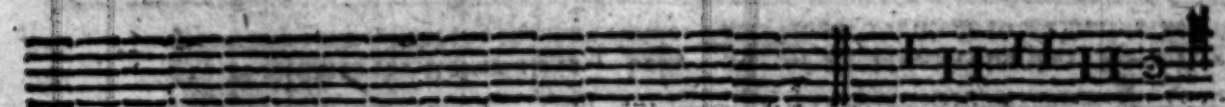
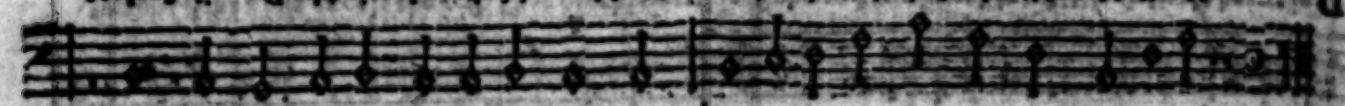
The vulgar, when occas on comes,  
 (This watch-word past) abroad doe lie:  
 Where, reading the Key, right nimbly they prance,  
 Thus waiting their Prince in and out they trace:  
 Who come, these Maides the Mores dance  
 Along with their King & place.



Of hir deare Liege leaue to be gone: But comfort none shee yet obtains,  
 But still his suite shee doth hold out, In hope at last to moue pittie.

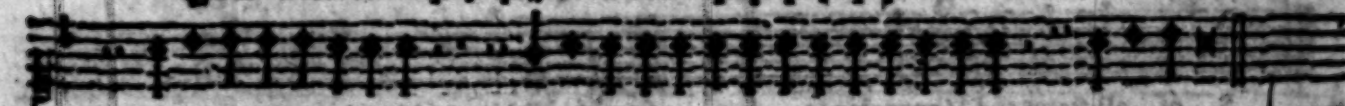


At all this while shee doth chant it alone, Most humbly begging in hir Do-rik strains,  
 Her Mothers silence makes her much to doubt, Her Grace vnto hir will this grace denie:

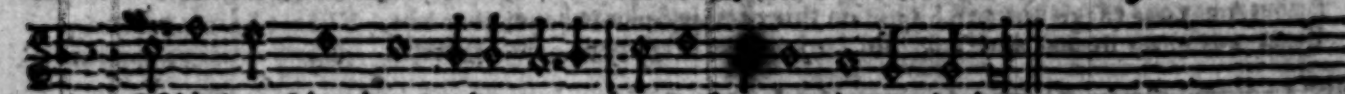


CONTRATENO.

MEANE



**B** Vt all this while shee doth chant it alone, Most humbly begging in hir Do-rik strains,  
 Her Mothers silence makes her much to doubt, Her Grace vnto hir will this grace denie:



Of hir deare Liege leaue to be gone, But comfort none shee yet obtains,  
 But still his suite shee doth hold out, In hope at last to moue pittie.

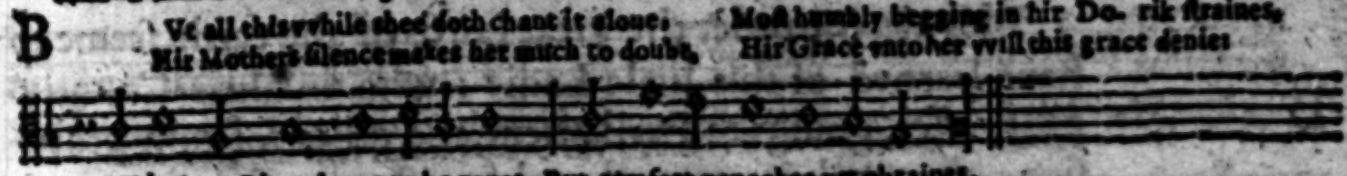
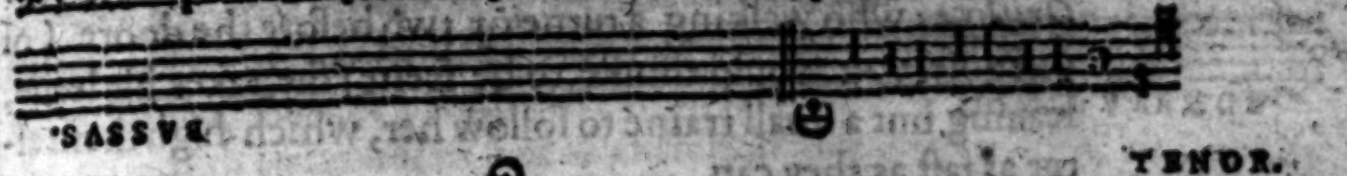
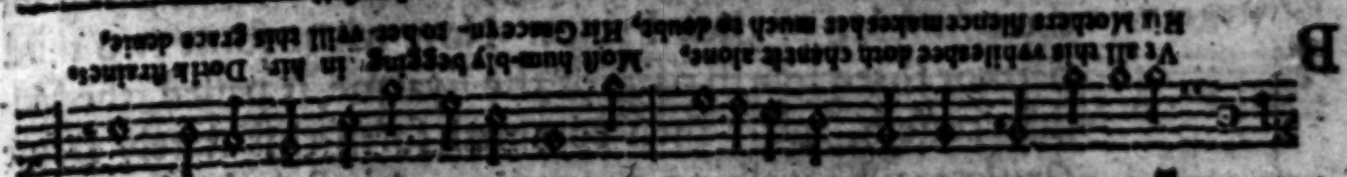
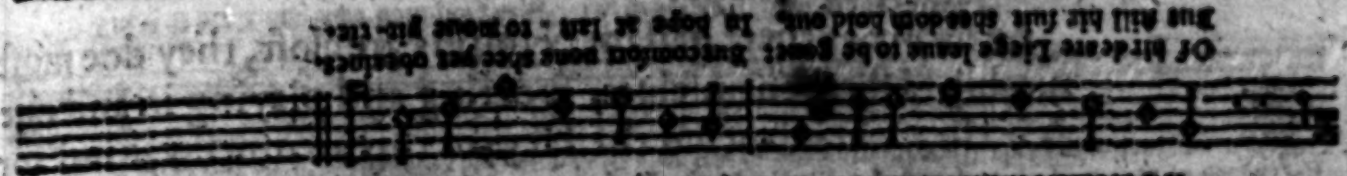
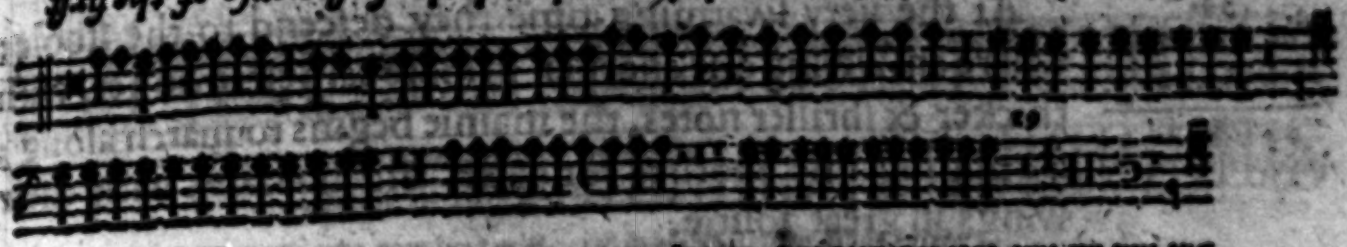


Impertunate Orithya now hath wonne  
 Her sterne Queene Mothers grant to hir desire:  
 For Ioy, her Sisters all as one  
 With cheerefull tones fill vp the Quire,  
 These Ladies Muscull Confort assures  
 The Prince hir much-desired Soueraigne:

The.

The Prince his much-loved Countess  
 These Ladies heartfull Comfort shewes  
 Which cheerfull comes all up the Court  
 For Joy, his Sifters all as one  
 His liege Queene Mothers griefe to his desire  
 Importunate Orinda now hath weene

*Sing this to the second Tune: and then end with the first verse of the first Song: repeating in either the two last Straines.*



Of his deare Liege leue to be gone: But comfort none shee yet obtains,  
 But still his suite shee doth hold out, In hope at last to moue pitie.



*Sing this to the second Tune: and then end with the first verse of the first Song: repeating in either the two last Straines.*

The vulgar, when occas'on serues,  
 (This watch-word past) abroad doe hie,  
 Where treading the Hey, right nimble they prance,  
 Thus waiting their Prince in and out they trace:  
 Who come, these Maids the Morice dance,  
 Along vnto their resting-place,



33.

Before swarming  
the voices come  
downe to the  
stoole.

In the morning before the swarme come abroad, these Ladies come downe neerer the stoole: and there they hold on their melodie somewhat longer, singing sometime aboute twentie notes together, and with shorter pauses.

34.

The manner of  
their swarming.

At the very swarming time they descend to the stoole: where answering one another in more earnest manner, with thicker & shriller notes, the mainie begins to march along; thronging one another for haste, and buzzing with their wings in great iolitic.

As soone as these gallant Nymphs are aloft, they doe most nimbly bestirring themselves, sporting and playing in and out as if they were dancing the Hey, in this manner waiting for the comming of their Prince. Now when some two third parts or three fourth parts of the swarme is passed, the Muslicke ceaseth, and \* then commeth forth this stately Dame *Oribya*: who walking a turne or two before the doore (of purpose, you would thinke, to be seene) she takes hir leaue, leauing but a small traine to follow her, which high them after as fast as they can.

\* Sometime when ill weather hath kept in the swarme ouer long, shee will come forth before them, as it were checking their slacknesse and timidity: but then returning in, she commeth forth afterward in hir due place.

This decent order the great Lords of the earth seeme to haue learned of this little Ladie: who in their Country progresses, goings to Parliament, and other solemne processions, doe send the greatest and fairest part of their retinue before them, hauing behinde but a small troope of necessarie attendants, to guard their persons.

35.

The prime  
swarme being  
broken, the next  
may call and  
swarme within  
the eighth day

If the prime swarme be broken, the second will both call, and swarme the sooner; it may be the next day: and by that occasion haply a third also may arise, yea and sometime a fourth.

36.

All the swarmes  
of one hie come  
within a fort-  
night.

But all within a fortnight after the prime swarme.

Except in some extraordinarie plentifull yeares both for Breed and Honie. Such as was 1616. wherein not onely many swarmes did swarme as old stockes; but also old stockes hauing betimes swarmed twice, about six weekes after began to swarme a fresh, as in an other yeare: and so had, in effect, two Summers in one.

After

After the second swarme, I haue heard a young Ladie bee call: but the Queene, not willing to part with any more of hir companie, did not answer: and the next day she with seuen more were brought forth dead. v.

V. c. 1. n. 7.

Sometime though the Queene giue consent to a third or fourth, the Bees seeing the stock little enough to liue, shew themselves loth to goe: and then also there is no way with her, but one.

37.

What vse there is of tinging the swarme.

When the swarme is vp, and busie in their dance, v: it is a common vse, for want of other Musicke, to play them a fit of mirth with a Pan, Kettle, Bason, Candlestick, or other like Instrument, so to stay them, forsooth, from flying away. Indeed where other Bee-folds are not farre off, this vse hath a good vse: for thereby the place and time of their rising is publicly notified, and so a iust and open claime laid vnto the Swarme, that otherwise some false neighbour might challenge for his: which vndoubtedly was the originall cause of this custome. But the pretended reason is to me a meere fancie: although I know it to bee as ancient as common. For *Claudian* long agoe could say,

V. m. 34.

*Cybeleia quassans  
Hisblans procul ara senex revocare fugaces  
Tinnitu conatur apes.*

De consola-  
tu Honorij.

And before him *Virgil*,

Georg. 4.

*Hinc ubi jam emissam caveis ad sidera cali  
Nare per aestatem liquidam suspexeris agmen, &c.  
Tinnitusque cie, & matris quato cymbala circum:  
Ipse confident medicatis sedibus, ipsa  
Intima more suo sese in cunabula condent.*

And before him old *Aristotle*,

*Gaudere etiam plausu, & sonitu apes videntur. Quapropter tinnitu aris aut Fictilis convocari eas in alveum aiunt.*

38.

What to doe if the swarme be way-ward.

If you see them begin to flie aloft ( which is a token they would be gone ) cast dust among them to make them come downe. If they will not be stayed, but, hasting on still, goe beyond your bounds; the ancient Law of Christendome permittech



permitted you to pursue them whithersoever, for the recovery of your owne.

*Fugientes persequi possumus in fundum alienum vel in loca Domini ac vicini. Lege Thesaurus § ad exhibendum. Quia ius cuique acquisitum ei conservari debet. Lege Patre. § de ijs qui sunt. Secus si apes ferat nro in alieno pradio captarom. § Apium, in fine de rerum divisione.*

But sometime they flye so fast and so farre before they pitch, that though you follow them neuer so fast, you must be content to leaue them, happily to the happy finder. For when you haue lost the sight and hearing of them, you haue lost al right and propertie in them.

*Examen ruidens alveo tuo evolverit, consq. intelligitur esse tuum, donec in conspectu tuo est, nec difficile persecutio ejus est: alioquin occupatio est. Iustinian. l. 2. institutionum juris. tit. de rerum divisione.*

39.  
Some swarmes  
provide them  
houses afore-  
hand.

40.  
And then they  
fly away direct-  
ly to the place.

Sometime they will be provided of a house before they swarme, which some Harbingers haue found and viewed, and dressed against their comming: as either a hollow tree, or a void Hiue: and then will they away presently, and by no meanes settle till they come thither. Vnto which place they will flie, not, as at other times, vncertainly this way and that way; but as directly as they can guesse.

A poore Woman hauing taken a poore swarme to keepe for halfe, by New-yeares-tide lost hir owne part and hir Partners: and being carelesse of the Hiue when the Bees were dead, she let it stand abroad till she had forgotten it: The next Summer comming into hir Garden, she found some Bees passing to and fro hir Hiue, which were then busie in cleansing and dressing it: shee wisely fearing that the Bees came to carrie away the Wax that was leaft, bade hir Daughter take the Hiue and carrie it in. The Wench following hir play did happily forget hir mothers command: and by that meanes the Hiue stood still, till the v unexpected swarme came, that afterward stored hir garden. It is not amisse therefore to follow the counsell of Columella: *Oportet autem vacua domicilia collocata in apiarijs habere. Nam sunt nonnulla examina quæ cum processerint, statim sedem sibi querant in proximo, (Sed potius prius quesitam, lustratam, & paratam ad-eant. v. n. 39.) eandemq. occupent quam vacuum repercrint.*

41.  
Vacua alvearia  
sunt semper pa-  
rata in Apiarijs.

When

**W**Hen your swarme hath made choise of a lighting place, you shall quickly see it knit together in forme (if nothing let) of a \*Cone, Pine-able, or cluster of grapes. As soone as it is settled, or at least as soone after as may be, hiue them. For the longer they hang, the lother they are to be put from the place, the more time they lose from their worke, and the more in danger are they to be gone, either home againe, or quite away. For when they are once settled, they presently send forth spies, to search out an abiding place: who if they returne with good newes before swarming-time be past that day, they rise presently, and are gone: otherwise they will stay till swarming-time the next day. But whensoever the spies haue sped, they returne with all speed, and no sooner doe they touch the Cone or Cluster, but they begin to shake their wings like as the Bees doe that are chilled: which the next perceiuing doe the like: and so doth this soft shiuering passe as a watch-word from one to another, vntill it come to the inmost Bees: whereby is caused a great hollownesse in the Cone. When you see them doe thus, then may you bid them farewell: for presently they begin to vnknit, and to be gone. And then though you Hiue them neuer so well, they will not abide.

When you see your swarme, first choose out a fit hiue, neither too big nor too litle, but proportionable to the quantitie and time of the swarme: so that the Bees may fill it that yeere, or at the least within a handfull, which they may make vp the next yeere in good time.

A swarme before *Mid-gemini*, put into a Hiue that containeth twice so much as the \*swarme is: a swarm at *Cancer*, into a Hiue that containeth so much, and halfe so much: and for a swarme at *Mid-cancer*, a Hiue, that will hold it or little more, may suffice. The rest betweene these let be fitted in like proportion vnto these.

For example, a swarme of three gawns, or a †good Prime-swarme before *Mid-Gemini*, will aske a Hiue of three pecks: such a one at *Cancer*, a Hiue of fife gawnes. Likewise a double-prime swarme comming betime, is fitted with a bushell-Hiue: and all pecke-swarmes, and other single

42.  
The Hiuing of Bees.

43.  
When they are to be hived.

\* A Cone is a round *Pyramis*. *Figura rotunda ex lato in acutis definitis*: and therefore is a Pine-able, of his figure, called *Conus*.

44.  
The token of their flying away after they be settled.

45.  
How to fit the Hives to the swarmes.



V. c. 3. n. 6.

V. n. 67. &amp; 68.

swarmes after *Mid-Canner*, with the least, or halfe-bushell-hiue. v. But little and late swarmes are rather to be vnited. v.

\* The aire being sultry-hot, causeth the swarme to hang hollow, and so to seeme greater than he is.

† The goodnesse or greatnesse of a swarme you may most certainedly know by the weight: it being a good one that weigheth five pound, a reasonable good one that weigheth foure, and a very good one that weigheth six. Heereby also it will not be difficult, which seemeth impossible, to know what number of Bees is in a swarme; if you know first that 4480. is a pound, because 280. weigheth one ounce, as 35. one dragma. So that two good swarmes vnited weighing 10. or 11. pound, doe containe betweene 40. and 50. M. the number of a *Campe-Royall*: which company cannot wel be larger vnder one Leader, in the largest Hiue. v. c. 3. n. 6. Of such a number did *Alexanders* victorious Army consist. For *Diod. Sic. l. 17.* reckoneth vp some 48. M. with those 13500. left behinde with *Antipater*. And *Iustin. l. 9.* not mentioning this company, numbrellh 36500. which number is also great enough for a very faire swarme; as containing the quantity of two reasonable swarmes vnited: there being also few single swarmes so good, as to amount to 30000.

The weight of any swarme is to be knowne when the Bees are newly hived, and the number in any weight when they are newly taken.

‡ If this iust proportion be not precisely kept, the Bees may doe well enough in a middle-sized hiue: for being vnder-hived, they will cast somewhat the sooner, though peradventure the lesse swarme; and being but a little over-hived, though they spend some time in supplying the former yeeres defects, they may yet swarme in good time, and the fairer swarme. And indeed all swarmes, whether bigger or lesse, by decreasing or increasing, doe naturally draw towards this quantity.

§ But if the disproportion be much, it must be amended; whether you spy your error the same day, or after ward.

¶ If the same day, your remedy is to knocke out the Bees vpon the mantle betweene two single Rests, and to set a fitter Hiue over them: but this is not to be done before the swarming-houres be past, lest some of the Bees take a misse, and goe home againe. Otherwise you may see the Hiue in a Brake, v. with his bottome vpward, and the fitter Hiue vpon.

‡ If after ward you see by the Bees lying out, that they are vnder.

V. n. 24.

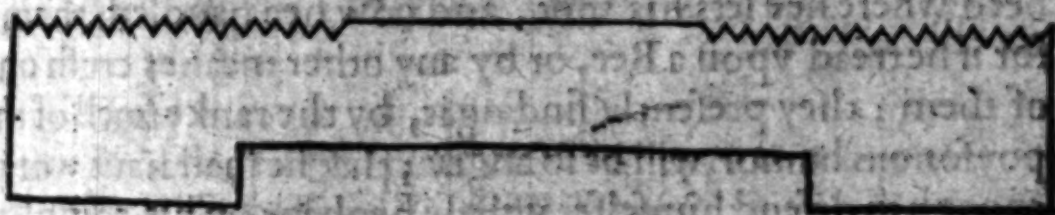
vnder-hiued, your remedy is to reare the Hiue with a skirt, or Bolsters, as much as will let them in. If at *Virgo* you see, by their not filling the Hiue, that they are over-hiued, your remedie is then to cut off the skirt vnto the combes, or neere to them.

But generally it is safer and more for your profit, to vnder-hiue a swarme, then to over-hiue him.

Your Hiue being fitted and dressed, v. you must haue also in a readinesse a Mantle, a Rest, and a Brush.

The Mantle may be a sheet, or halfe-sheet, or other linnen cloth, an ell square at the least.

A Rest is either single or double. The single Rest is a *Prisme* or three square *Columnne*, eightene inches long, and three inches deepe, hauing the vpper edge full of nicks for the space of six inches at each end, and the middle space, of six inches, smooth. It will be safer for the Bees, and lighter for cariage, if the length of tenne inches in the middle of the bottome be cut away one inch high, abating the new edges; and the foure inches at each end be hollowed in the middle of the bottome from end to end, at the same height of one inch: and so this will be the forme of the side,



And this of the end.

It is most siclie made of a quarter of a young tree.



Vpon sheluing or hanging ground, one single Rest may serue: but if the ground be somewhat leuell, it is better to vse two: because the Hiue-skirt is set down vpon them with lesse danger to the Bees, then vpon the ground or other flat thing. And these two Rests are to be placed with the vpper edges about nine inches apart: so that the Hiue standing vpon them, may hang out ouer them some two or three inches.

M

In

46.  
Better to vnder-  
hiue a stall then  
to over-hiue him.

V. 6. 3. n. 8.

47.  
Three things re-  
quisite to hiving.

48.  
The Mantle.

49.  
The single Rest.



P. n. 45. 56. 69.

P. n. 57.

50

The double Rest.

In some cases two single Rests are most conuenient, v. but in most the double: v. which is also lighter for carriage, and more ready for vse.

The double Rest consisteth of two parts or sides, an inch thicke, of the same length and depth with the single Rest, hauing such vpper edges so nickt at both ends, and the lower edges smooth, with ten inches of the middle cut away halfe an inch high, and then made sharpe againe: which two sides are to be fastned one to another, at the iust distance of nine inches from edge to edge, with two Rounds or Braces tennanted into them three or foure inches from the ends. These sides are fildy made of inch-board, or of a cleaft Lug of Withie or other wood.

51:

The Brush.

The Brush is a handfull of Rosemary, Hyssop, Fennell, or other herbes; of Hazell, Withie, Plum-tree, or other boughs; or rather of boughes with hearbs, bound taper-wise together.

52.

What the Hiuer must doe.

V. c. I. n. 2.

All things necessary thus prepared, let the Hiuer, which must weare no offensive apparell, v. first drinke of the best beere, and wet his hands and face therewith: and then let him goe about his businesse soberly and gently, taking good heed where hee sets his foot, and how hee handleth them: for if he tread vpon a Bee, or by any other meanes crush one of them; they presently finding it, by the ranke smell of the poysonous humor, will be so angry; that he shall haue worke enough to defend himselfe, vnlesse hee haue on his complete harnesse: v. and being thus disquieted they wil be the worse to hieue. Moreover, the troubling of them doth oft times make them rise and goe home againe: sometime it breaketh the swarme, causing part to returne, whereby the rest are discouraged, being least vn sufficient: yea sometime it disperseth and spoyleth the whole swarme: it may be also the death of the Queene: and then they will not continue to the next Summer, howsoeuer provided. And experience hath taught me, that few swarmes much troubled in the hiuing do prosper. And therefore in any case Hiue them as quietly, and with as little businesse as you may.

V. c. I. n. 40.

53.

The manner of Hiuing.

The manner of hiuing is so manifold, by reason of the many

many & different circumstances of the lighting or pitching places, that it can hardly be taught by precepts; but is rather to be learned by use and experience, guided with reason and discretion. Neuertheless for the helpe of nowices, I will set downe some speciall directions, which he that marketh, may readily hieve a swarme in most lighting places: and a little practise will fit him for any.

First therefore note that a swarme is to be hived by 1. shaking, or 2. cutting the bough whereon it hangeth, or by 3. wiping the Bees down, or 4. driving them vp into the Hiue.

If your swarme light vpon a bough, first spread the Mantle vnder it, and lay the Rest or Rests in the middle thereof, with the ends toward two corners of the Mantle.

Then if the swarme be so high, that you or some assistant may conueniently put the Hiue vnder it; hauing first removed the twigs round about, that stand in your way, shake the Bees into the Hiue: and when you haue set the Hiue right vpon the Rests, take vp the two corners of the Mantle at the ends of the Rests, and pinne them together vpon the top of the Hiue, to stay the Bees running out sodainely: and then returning to the bough, shake it againe, and turne it aside out of his place, or couer it with your body, or with some cloth: and then presently loose the corners of the Mantle, and spread them againe. When they begin to cease running into the Hiue, if you see them lie thicke vpon the Mantle, shake them to the Hiue-skirts: and the rest, as well vpon the Hiue as the Mantle, drive in gently with your Brush. So shall you easily and quietly Hieve them. Otherwise hauing first taken away the twigs that may let you, cut off the bough or boughes (for sometime they wil hang vpon many): and if you doubt that some of them may fall in the cutting, let another second you with the ready Hiue, holding it directly vnder them. The bough being cut, lay the *Cone* betweene two single Rests, and set the Hiue ouer them. Or else put the *Cone* first in the Hiue, and then set the Hiue downe vpon the Rests.

But if they hang so neere the ground, that you cannot conueniently put the Hiue vnder them; then placing the

54.  
*Four meanes  
of Hiving a  
Swarme.*

55.  
*How to Hieve a  
Swarme that  
lighteth vpon a  
bough.*

56.  
*Either high.*

57.  
*Or low.*



Mantle and Rest right vnder, shake them downe: and setting the Hiue ouer them vpon the Rests, take vp the two corners of the Mantle, and doe as before.

And in case some of the swarme be first fallen to the ground, whence they make no haste to rise againe; then, placing a double Rest without a Mantle as well as you may, not killing any Bees, either shake the rest downe to them, and so set the Hiue ouer them all, or else set the Hiue ouer that part, and the rest, hauing cut the bough, lay beside the Hiue, and moue them with your Brush.

58.  
How if it lyes  
vpon a high tree.

If they pitch vpon a high tree, it is not best to shake them into the Hiue, but rather with a sharpe knife cut the bough if you can conueniently: and either put it into the Hiue, and couer it with a Mantle, or bring it downe gentlie in your hand. But if you want a ladder or other meanes to bring it downe, then let it downe by a cord tied to some crooke of the bough.

59.  
How if vpon the  
body of a tree.

If they pitch vpon the body of a tree, or vpon some great arme; then set one side of the Hiue right ouer the Bees, and with the Brush drine them vp by mouing still the lower and wayward part. But if you haue no meanes to fasten the Hiue by tying it aboue, or propping it beneath with prongs or the like, or if they be vnwilling thus to take the Hiue; then parting them from the tree with a tight v. thred, wipe them downe into the hiue, and set them vpon the Mantle & Rest vnder the tree. If they be so high that you must clime for them, then couer them presently with a Mantle; and so carry them downe. But looke that many will rise againe: which let alone vntill they be knit, and then sweepe them likewise into another leere Hiue, and put them to their fellows. If yet some of them will vp againe, you must not cease to trouble them, by wiping them off gently with your Brush, by laying on Mug-wort, Margerom, Wormewood, \* Atchangel, or other Weeds, or Hearbs, or by couering the place with a cloth: and after a while they will all to their fellows in the Hiue.

\* White Nettle.

But if they be so neere the ground, that you cannot conueniently put the Hiue vnder them; then with a tight thred sweep

sweep them downe vpon the ground, hauing first layed the Rest either with or without the Mantle, and set the Hiue ouer them.

And if they be of that distance from the ground, that you may set a stoole close vnder them; then make fast one side of the Mantle vnto the tree close vnder the Bees, and the rest of the Mantle lay vpon the stoole with the Rest: then hauing sodainly swept downe the Bees vpon the Mantle, set the hiue ouer them: and presently loosing that side of the Mantle from the tree, lay it ouer the Bees close to the Hiue.

If they light on the top of a stub, pollard, dead hedge, or the like, set one side of the Hiue ouer them, propping the other side with a prong or two, and drine them vp as before.

If they light in the middle or bottome of a dead hedge, your best way is softly to vntworke the hedge till you come to them: otherwise you must violently knocke the hedge on the other side, so forcing the Bees into the Hiue: and then setting them downe, trouble the place as before. But then be sure to be troubled your selfe: for it is hard so to get them from such a hold.

If they light on some hollow side of a stub or tree, which they will be loth to leaue; beware in any case you wet them not: for that doth not onely drowne many, but also maketh the rest more eagerly keepe the place: because some through the wet cannot flie away, and their fellowes finding them there will still resort vnto them. But when you haue moued them by other meanes as much as you may, put some moner or cloome into the hollow place, mouing it forward by litle and litle, so that you burie none of the Bees, vntill you haue spread it ouer the place: and then will they forsake that, and take some other part of the tree or stub, where you may more easily hiue them.

When they flie into a hollow tree, so that by none of the foresaid meanes you can hiue them, then must you remoue them by some offensive smoake, and make them chuse a new lighting place: which is thus to be done. If the Bees lye aboue the hole where they went in (as they will doe if they may) then boare a hole aboue them: if beneath, beneath

60.

How if it light  
vpon the top of  
any thing.

61.

How if it light  
in the middle of a  
dead hedge.

62.

How if it light  
on some hollow  
side of a stub, or  
tree.

63.

How if it flie in-  
to a hollow tree.



them : but bee sure that the vpper hole bee wide enough : rather then faile make two or three with a two-inch auger, or, with a hatchet, one as great. Then fire a peece of Match, or for want of Match, take a little Hay, or other thing that will smoake moderately, and not flame; and put it into the tree beneath them : and you shall see them fly forth about for life, and presently pitch in some place where you may hiue them. But this is to be done the same or the next day at the farthest : for afterward they will abide the smother, and rather lose their liues then leaue their goods.

64.  
*Now if it light  
vpon another  
hiue.*

65.  
*The swarme is  
alwaies to bee  
kept together,  
lest the Bees kill  
one another.*

If a swarme by reason of the coldnesse of the aire, and roughnesse of the wind being not able to get away, do offer to light vpon any other Hiue; quickly couer the Hiue close with a Mantle, lest the Bees entring be pittifully murdered.

But in all manner hiuings this one rule is generall. The swarme must bee continually kept together : for if at that time part remaine from the company but the space of halfe an houre or lesse; afterward when they finde them, and would returne vnto them, they are vsed as Strangers and Robbers : as fast as they come they are beaten and killed. And those that escaping thence goe backe to their old home, finde no better entertainment : and those few that escape thence, desperately runne into any other Hiues, and so leape out of the Frying-pan into the fire. And therefore when the swarme is hiued, if you see part begin to gather together by themselves; remoue them as speedily as you can, that they may goe to their fellowes in time.

66  
*The swarme to be  
set neere the  
lighting-place.*

And alwaies if you may chuse, set the swarme in the morning Sunne, and as neere the lighting-place as may be: which if some inconuenience will not suffer you to doe, yet set it within the length of a Pearch, or at the least within sight and hearing : and then (lest those which are least at the lighting place, by losing their company a while, lose their liues also) first trouble them by the meanes mentioned n. 59. and then cause some of the hiued part to arise by shaking them off the bough, and by wiping them downe that are on the out-side of the Hiue. Which, when they are vp, will make such a noise, that their fellowes may easily finde them. And if

if any yet hankering behinde chance to be set vpon when they come to the Hiue; be-sprinkle the Mantle, the Hiue, and the Bees with a little strong drinke, and you shall part the fray.

And if any man maruaile why they of the same swarme should so soone be strange one to an other, seeing that Bees of one Hiue being pent a whole day in an other, are yet welcome to their fellowes at the last; I can giue no other reason but this, that they knowing a swarme may part, and so each part become a seuerall company, they deeme these to be such by their long absence. And if you aske why they should finde so hard entertainment in their old home from whence they came, it is because they went away with a Leader of their owne, and so became a seuerall company. And therefore if she bide away, as many as come backe, (vnlesse they come presently) are vsed as strangers: but if part haue brought hir home againe, the rest doe safely returne afterward, either that euening, or the next morrow.

If the swarme part, as sometime it will, and settle in diuers places so neere that they may see each other; let the greatest part alone, specially if it bee best to hiue, and trouble the other in the setling with shaking, gentle rubbing with weeds, and spitting and blowing in the place, that they may goe to their fellowes. If they bee settled and hang vpon a bough, cut the bough and bring them to them. If they bee settled in some other place, then put them in a hiue without Spleers: and if they be within a pearch of the other part, moue them both, one towards an other by little and little till they be close together. After they haue stood so about halfe an houte, list vp the spleeted hiue from his Mantle and Rest, and shake the Bees out of the vnspleeted hiue vpon the same: you may first knocke the hiue downe, and then presently clap it twice or thrice betweene your hands. This done, sprinkle both parts with good drinke, and then without any stay set the spleeted hiue ouer them, and they will straight way vp into it. But lay the vnspleeted hiue along hard by, not where it stood, but on the other side: and those that remaine in it will follow their fellowes. But if the parts be

67.  
What to doe if a  
swarme part.



be farther a-part then a Pearch; then put them together the same night, as if they were two swarmes. v. n. 69.

Inlike manner, when you haue little swarmes vnder the quantitie of a Pecke, specially after *Cancer* is well entred; put two or three of \* them together, whether they rise in the same day, or in diuers.

\* After this time, the chiefe breeding being past, the swarmes desire most to vnite themselves, that thereby they may make their company sufficient: which by breeding they haue not time to doe.

68.

Uniting of  
swarmes is profit-  
table.

For being thus vnited they will labour cheerefully, gather store of wealth, and stoutly defend themselves against all enemies: whereas if they were kept asunder, they would surely perish the next robbing-time, or winter; or living would doe you little good. And therefore if two swarmes rising at the same time do weld and knit together; (as lightly they will doe, if they be within hearing one of an other) neuer trouble your selfe to part them, nor be sorrie for the chance. For those two being all one, are better then three such that are alone. Indeed sometime it falleth out, that they fall out, and fight at the first: but that is because they are yet diuers companies vnder diuers Commanders. For so soone as the inferior being taken away, there remaineth one supreme Monarch ouer all; the strife presently ceaseth, and they are thence-forth linked in perpetuall peace and vnitie together. Wherefore they are little acquainted with the nature of these politike creatures, that fetch their similitudes from them, to crosse that Rich, Mightie, Renowned, thrice happy V N I O N, vnder one Prudent, Porent, Peacefull, thrice Noble Soueraigne.

69.

The manner of  
uniting.

The way to vnite two swarmes is this. In the euening some two or three houres after Sunne-set, or when it waxeth darke, hauing spread a Mantle on the ground, neere vnto the stoole, where this vnited swarme shall stand, and set a paire of Rests in the middle of it; knock downe the Remouer vp-on the Rests, and then lifting vp the Hiue a little, and clapping it betweene your hands to get out the Bees that sticke in it, lay it downe on his side warily by the Bees, and set the

Receiver

*Receiver* vpon the Rests ouer them: and they will begin presently to ascend. If those that remaine doe not runne out to their company, of their owne accord; clap the place where they be gathered, and force them out: and lay downe the hie againe so, that the small remnant may follow their fellowes: if you spy any clustering by themselves, or stragling from the Rests, guide them thither. And when they are all in, either that night, or betimes in the morning, cloome the Hie vnto his stoole.

Otherwise about ten a clocke, or as soone as it is darke, set the *Remouer* in a Brake v: with his bottome vpward, and the *Receiver* vpon him, binding them about the skirts with a long Towell or two Napkins sowed or pinned together, and so let them stand till the morning: and then set the *Receiver* vpon his stoole. After this manner I vnited two swarmes without the death of any one Bee, sauing onely her that must not be saued.

If yet there be not Bees enough in the Hie, you may in like manner put another swarme to them.

In the vniting of swarmes, two speciall inconueniences are to be auoided. The one that being vnited, they exceed not the naturall quantitie of a swarme: v. for if they doe, though they agree and gather, and grow fat, yea and cast the next yeare a faire swarme; yet will they neuer come to their first quantitie againe, nor scarce swarme any more in that vast roome. The other that they fight not, and destroy one an other. Vnto which two inconueniences the swarmes that vnite themselves, if they be not aided, are obnoxious. To preuent the fruitlesse concourse of more then need is, which is the first inconuenience, when you see a sufficient faire swarme abroad, haue an eye vnto the rest of your stockes: if you espie an other about to rise, stay him by present shutting the doore with a Napkin, Apron, or other such cloth, vntill the first swarme be settled: if then one rising draw neere vnto him (as lightly he will doe if he can finde him) couer him quickly with a Mantle till that be settled: if being now hieed, an other presse into him; then before many be entred, (that you may be sure not to haue the Queene)

70.  
*Another way.*  
P. n. 24.

71.  
Two speciall inconueniences to be auoided in this worke.

72.  
1. Superfluous multitude.  
P. c. 3. n. 6.

73.  
2. Ciuill warre.

74.  
To preuent the first.



carrie away the Hiue with the swarme about two perches off: and set a leere prepared Hiue in his place for that other swarme.

If none of these things bee done, but that swarmes doe runne together in greater quantitie than a good Hiue can conteine; then reare the Hiue with bolsters high enough to let them all in: which, when they haue once swarmed, the \* next Vindemie take away thus:

\* If you doe it in Winter, see the Bees be not chilled.

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V. c. 3. n. 19.

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To prevent the  
second

76.

When most dan-  
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Sometime a swarme being abroad, yea knit in the *Cone*, will not abide, but returne home againe: the cause whereof is windie, wet, or cloudie weather, the not finding of a fit lighting-place, trouble in hining, the hot standing of the Hiue without defence, and the missing of their Prince. And this specially in a plentiful season, they being then as readie to returne vpon little or no occasion, as loth to come abroad, even in the safest weather. *N. n. 20.* I obserued once, that the Prince being scarce ready, fell downe from the stoole vnable to recouer hir wings: whereupon the swarme returned. She being put into the Hiue, the next day the swarme rose againe and setled, but the Prince hapned to fall beside the *Cone*. The swarme being knit, missing her, began to vnknit, and be gone: which I perceiuing presently hined them: but they being still discontented, ranne vp and downe the Hiue, with a murmuring noise both without and within. Anone

77.

A Story of a  
deadly feud.

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78.8

The causes of the  
swarm going  
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1. *Introduction*

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If none of these things bee done, but that swarmes doe runne together in greater quantitie than a good Hiue can conteine; then reare the Hiue with bolsters high enough to let them all in: which, when they haue once swarmed, the \* next Vindemie take away thus.

\* If you doe it in Winter, see the Bees be not chilled.

In a faire afternoone, about foure a clocke, picke away all the cloome betweene the hiue and the stoole: and in the morning, at the breake of the day, lay the Hiue along with the edges of the Combes vp and downe, vpon a Mantle spread on the ground: and there pare off the Combes ends euen with the skirts, and so set him againe on the Stoole vpon moueable v. Doore-posts, and a thin bolster behinde: and presently clome vp the Hiue as close as may be.

Concerning the other inconuenience, know this, that though two strange swarmes, with their seuerall Queenes, doe neuer meet in one Hiue without discontent; (which they expresse by running to and fro without, and making a tumultuous noise within: from which they sometime fall to fighting and killing) yet commonly this strife is soone at an end. For the first Queene hauing gotten the right of the whole Roome by the possession of the Capitol or Superior part, where she sitteth late with hir Guard about her; the Inferior by a common consent, is straight-way dispatched: and so they become all fellowes and friends vnder one Soueraigne. And therefore when swarmes are vnited by you, be sure that the Bees in the *Receiuer* be not throwne downe among the other, lest the Superior Queene come downe with them, and so you make more strife than needs.

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V. c. 3. n. 29.

75

To prevent the  
second

76.

When most dan-  
ger is.

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Sometime a swarme being abroad, yea knit in the *Cone*, will not abide, but returne home againe: the cause whereof is windie, wet, or cloudie weather, the not finding of a fit lighting-place, trouble in hining, the hot standing of the Hiue without defence, and the missing of their Prince. And this specially in a plentifull season, they being then as readie to returne vpon little or no occasion, as loth to come abroad, even in the safest weather. *V. n. 20.* I obserued once, that the Prince being scarce ready, fell downe from the stoole vnable to recouer hir wings: whereupon the swarme returned. She being put into the Hiue, the next day the swarme rose againe and seled, but the Prince hapned to fall beside the *Cone*. The swarme being knit, missing her, began to vnknit, and be gone: which I perceiuing presently hiued them: but they being still discontented, ranne vp and downe the Hiue, with a murmuring noise both without and within. Anone

77.  
A Stone of a  
deadly fend.

78.3  
The causes of the  
swarm going  
home againe.



I had espied about a handfull of Bees hanging vpon a Nettle on the ground: among which was the Prince. When I had cut off the Nettle, and set it by the Rest vnder the Hines-kirt, presently the knot vnknitting, I saw the lost Prince with his long traine stately walking into the Hine. As soone as hee was entred, these Male-contents began to stand still and buzze, ioyfully shaking their wings, as they wont to doe when they are pleased; and so quietly kept the Hine. To see the suddaine alteration among them presently vpon his approach, and how they could haue notice of it all at once, as well they without, as those within, would euen make a man to wonder; but that indeed all they doe is nothing else but wonders.

79.  
How to stay  
them.

Swarmes that goe home, doe sometimes stay long before they rise againe: and when they rise (specially if they were hined) they are likely to fly away: although I haue knowne a swarme to rise foure times in three daies, and at the last to be quietly hined. If therefore you perceiue the swarme returning before many be entred the old stocke, shut the doore fast: if that will not serue the turne, carrie the old stocke away stoole and all, and set the swarme presently vpon a stoole in his place.

80.  
How to keepe  
them from other  
Hines.  
V.C.2.2. 17.

81.  
Set not a swarme  
nere an others  
hining-place.

82.  
What to do when  
the swarme is  
new hined.

And if any of them be going into other Hines, (as sometimes, where the Hines stand nere together or are many, some of them, specially the young Nymphs that haue not beene abroad before, will doe; v.) cover them with Mantles: for as many as enter will die, or scape narrowly.

If a swarme light nere the place where another was hined a day or two before; be sure to set it as farre as conueniently you may, from the place where the former lighted and stood: the space of a Pearch or somewhat lesse may suffice: otherwise many of the first swarme resorting thither, will to the new swarme, and so be killed.

When your Bees are hined, those that hang on the outside, driue in gently with your Brush, and lay the corners of the Mantle that are farthest from the Rest, ouer the Hine, with boughes also to shadow it, if the weather be hot. But if you finde them vnwilling to goe in (as in extreme hot weather

weather they will be, though they like the Hiue well enough) then strue not with them; but laying the corners of the Mantle ouer the Hiue, as before, with boughes to shade it, there suffer them till the heat be abated, and then driue them in: and if you thinke they cannot otherwise well endure that heat, couer the Hiue againe with Mantle and Boughs. And so let it stand till it wax darke, and all the Bees become home.

Then knitting the foure corners of the Mantle together, at the top of the Hiue, and binding the Mantle about close to the middle of the hiue with a small line, carrie the swarme to his place. And after a while, taking away the Mantle, set it vpon his seat with the doore toward the South, or rather South-west: v. and then leauing onely a breathing place, for feare of stifling them, cloome it vp close, & put on a hackle v. and so let it stand till it be faire and warme the next day. For if the Hiue be leaft open, in the morning betimes they will resort to their former standing and there abide, sometime flying about, sometime setting on the ground: where if the cold or wet take them many dye. When you see the weather fit them, then hanging the Mantle, or other white cloth vpon the Hiue, let the go. But they will the sooner leaue the haunt of their hiving-place, & fall to their work; if you shew them their new standing by knocking them out together vpon the stoole, when the weather is warme.

All swarmes, if the morrow be faire, will desire to be abroad betimes: and knowing their want, will bestirre themselves more lustily in their labour than other Bees. But if the foule weather keepe them in the first day, then are they much discouraged: so that the next day being indifferent, when other Bees worke hard, they will scarce looke out of the doore, not daring to commit their leere and thinne bodies to the cold aire. And if they be quite kept in the second day also; then will they not wagge (though they dye for it) vntill the weather be very pleasant. They may liue five or six daies in the Hiue without Honie: but afterward they begin to string downe, hanging one at anothers heeles. *Pedibus connexa ad limina pendent.* Which is a certaine signe

83.  
How to remove  
it in the evening.

84.  
How to set it on  
his seat.

V. 6. 2. 15.

V. 6. 3. 15.

6. 20. 6.

85.  
How to use it in  
the morning.

86.  
Foule weather  
the first day  
doth much discourage a swarme.

87.  
Foule weather  
continuing doth  
make it drowse  
and die.

88.  
A swarme may  
liue six daies  
without Honie.  
V. 18.



89.

How to prevent  
the drouping and  
death of a  
swarme.

V. c. g. n. 2.

90.

How to cure a  
drouping swarme.

of death, if they be not presently relieued. To prevent this euill, If the swarme light in your Garden within a Pearch of the Seat that is appointed for him, set it there at the first: and so will they lose no time in hankering about the hiving-place. And if it light farther off, (whether in your garden or other place where they may stand safe, specially the weather being vni kinde or vnconstant) leaue them there till it mend. v: for those that are not removed, but keepe still their first standing, because they are not to seeke of their way home, they feare the foule weather as little as the best. And therefore need not to be shut in in the morning, as those that are removed: or to haue any white ouer them for their direction.

The meanes to recouer such a drouping swarme is this. The first Sunne-shinie day turne vpon the Hiue to the Sunne, that his heat may reuiue them: and besprinkling the sides of the Hiue, the Spleets, and the Bees also a little with Mede or Honie-water; hold them so in the heat of the Sunne till you see many of them fly abroad. Then set downe the Hiue gently vpon his Seat againe, and couer it not til it be through warme, and the Bees play cheerefully, as at other Hiues.



## CHAP. VI.

## Of the Bees Worke.

I.  
Bees most industrious creatures.



Nto the industrious nature of Bees nothing is more odious than sloth and idlenesse: while there is matter to worke vpon (vnlesse they be let by vnkinde weather) their worke neuer ceaseth: yea the old Bees, which haue spent their daies in continuall labour, will not at the last allow themselves any immunitie or rest in their Hiues, as a recompence for

for their paines past, but continue still their trauaile vnto death: v. In the three still moneths indeed, *Sagittarius*, *Capricornus*, and *Aquarius*, because then there is nothing to gather, they worke not: (yet when a faire day or houre cometh, as wearie of rest, they will abroad, imploying themselves in diuers necessarie offices: v.) but so long as any good flowers grow, euen from *Pisces* or a little before, vnto *Sagittarius* and, some yeares, somewhat after, (which is full nine moneths) they lose no time, (*Nullus, dum per cælum licuit, perit dies*) but follow their businette tooth and naile. Which incessant labour while the time permitteth, with the three singular effects thereof, the (1) working of Wax, the (2) making of Honie, and the (3) feeding of their young v: the Poet in few words hath elegantly exprest all together,

*Quod superest, ubi pulsam hyemem sol aureus egit*

*Sub terras, cælumq, estiva luce reclusit;*

*Ille continuo salus silvasq, peragrat,*

*Purpureosq, metunt flores & flumina libant*

*Summa leues. Hinc nescio qua dulcedine late*

*(3.) Progeniem nidosaq, fovent; hinc arte recentes*

*Excudunt (1.) ceras: & (2.) mella tenacia fingunt.*

**T**Heir first worke is the ground of the other two, the Artificiall Cells seruing both for Coffers to lay their sweet treasure in, and for neasts and nurseries to breed their young in. The matter thereof they gather from flowers with their Fangs: which, being kept soft with the heat of their little bodies, of the Aire, and of their Hiues, is wrought into Combs. This worke is so nimbly and closely done, that it can hardly be perceiued: insomuch that *Aristotle* plainly confesseth, *Nec vero quemadmodum operantur visum adhuc est*. But *Plinie*, willing to goe a little beyond him, telleth vs a tale of a Lanthorne-hiue made at *Rome*, through which, forsooth, their doings in the Hiue were discried: and in another place of another like device, *Multi alvearia speculati lapide fecere, ut operantes intus spectarent*. But vnlesse the Bees also were transparent as well as the Hiue, this cannot be: seeing they doe alwaies frequently compasse the Combs round

V. c. 1. n. 58.

2.

In three moneths they cannot worke.

V. c. 3. n. 60. 61.

All the yeare after they lose no time.

Nat. hist. li. 11. cap. 6.

4.

Three fruits of Bees labour.

V. n. 53.

Virg.

3.

The first, and ground of all, is Wax.

6.

How Wax is gathered and wrought.

Hist. l. 9. c. 49.

Nat. hist. li. 11. c. 16.

Nat. hist. li. 21. c. 14.



7.  
How you may see  
the working of  
the combes.

round about. A more likely way than that, were to haue a moueable peece in one side of the Hiue: which when you haue taken away, you may see the Drones and the Honey-Bees walking together to and fro, and with their doubled heat hatching their young: but their worke can you not see, though you remoue and part the Bees till the bare Combes appeare. But if your curiositie would so faine behold the manner of their curious and artificiall building, the onely way is this. In *Gemini* set vp a last yeeres midling swarme two or three handfulls about the stoole: and then when most of the Bees are abroad (but most fitly in the forenoone when they are most quiet) you may behinde the stoole behold them working on the edges of their combes: and hauing blowne their liquid and soft wax out of their mouthes (as the Wasps doe their drossie stuffe, which you may see them gather from pales with their fangs and so carry it away) to fasten and fashion it with their fangs and forefeet.

8.  
How much wax  
they bring at  
once.

How much wax they bring at once, doth appeare by the new swarmes: whose first weekes worke is spent chiefly in building combes: wherein they are so earnest, that it falleth out with them as it is in the Prouerbe, *The more haste the worse speed*. For many of their burdens doe fall from them before they can fasten them to the Combes. You may then see great store of them vpon the stoole by the skirts of the hiue, like vnto the white scales, which fall from young birds feathers. And therefore some haue imagined, that they also are scales which the young Bees doe likewise shed from their wings. But put you some of those parcells together with warme fingers, & you will quickly be resolued of that doubt.


9.  
The admirable  
Architecture of  
their combes and  
cells.

The Bees combes are placed otherwise than the Wasps: for the Wasps hang theirs one vnder another, and the Bees theirs one beside another; beginning them in the top of the hiue, at that distace that a Bee may reach fro one to another.

Their cells or little holes are made six square, according to the number of their feet: and of that length and widenesse, that each of them may easily containe a Bee. Which are so artificiallie wrought and ioyned together, that *S. Ambrose* in the consideration thereof saith, *Qua castra quadrata tantum possunt*

Hexamer. l. 5.  
C. 32.

possunt habere artis & gratia, quantum habent crates favorum, in quibus minuta ac rotunda cellulae coniunctione sui invicem subiunguntur? Quis enim architectus eas docuit hexagonia illa cellarum indiscreta laterum aequalitate componere, ac tennes inter domorum septa ceras suspendere, stipare mella, intertexta floribus horrea nectare quodam distendere?

But heerein their Art is yet more exquisite, that whereas there are two courses of cells in the two sides of every comb, the cel-bottoms in these two sides are never opposite one to another: but each hexagonal bottom of one side answereth to three third parts of the hexagonal bases of three contiguous cells on the other side, meeting all in one angle right in the centre of the opposite bottome: as in this forme:  which is so artificiall, as well for strength as beauty, that no schadon, though the thin bottome of his cell should faile, can breake through into a cell of the other side. Hee that sees this, sees he not a wonder?

Besides these ordinary combs, there is commonly one Drone-combe in a hiue, wherein the Cephens are bred, made for the nonce with wider cells. *Sunt loculi ipsi fucorum ampliores, & finguntur seorsim quodq; per se favi fucorum.* Although in some hiues part of the Drone-combes be made out with Nymph-cells. The Drone-combe being no thicker than others, and yet the Drones longer than the small Bees; they increase the length of his cells by covering them, not with a flat cover, as they doe the rest, but with a deepe hollow one like an old wiues thrumbd cap: which afterward, when the Drones are bred, they take away. And when those cells are void of Cephens, they fill them as they doe the other with hony: yea and after swarming-time, if they want vpper cells for their hony, they will not tarry till their Cephens come forth themselves, but liking better their roome than their company, they draw them out of their seminaries before they be ripe. *v.c. 4. n. 31.*

But the Queenes cells are built single, every one by himselfe: and that in diuers places of the Hiue, some aboue, and some beneath: that, as other princes, she may for her delight remoue at hir pleasure. But, for the most part, in the out-sides

*re.*  
The Drone-combe.

*Hist. 9. c. 40.*

*re.*  
The Queenes cells are built single in diuers places.



12.  
In fashion  
round.

P. c. 4. n. 18.  
Nat. hist. li. 11.  
c. 11.

13.  
The common er-  
ror anent these  
celles.

14.  
The combes doe  
often change  
their hue.

Virgin wax  
and ordinary.

15.  
Wax is gathered  
onely in foure  
months.

16.  
Hony the second  
fruit is gathered  
in 9. moneths.

P. c. 3. n. 59.

17.  
Two sorts of  
Hony.

of the combes: for although it be fit for Princes to be nere their chiefe Cities; yet doe they not loue to be pestered in the midst of them. In fashion they are round: which is the most perfect figure, as the six square is most fit for comely ioyning many such buildings together. They are also larger than the rest: to shew that subiects houses should not match their So- ueraignes in greatnesse. In these Palaces' do they breed their young Princes. v. *Pliny* speaketh thus of them: *Regias im- peratoribus extruunt amplas, magnificas, separatas, tuberculo eminentes.* The common people, finding them alwaies in those stalls that die, take them for certaine signes of death, and call them pipes, or taps: and therefore when they see them in a stal that they take, they say, This was taken in good time, for it is piped: and therefore would haue stood no lon- ger. But seeing none are without, no nor the yongest swarms; ordinary reason might teach them to forgoe that fond con- ceipt.

The Combes haue successiue sundry colours: white, yellow, browne, blacke. Their first colour white, by the end of Summer is turned to a light yellow. Those that are taken and tried this first yeere, are called Virgin-wax, but the whiter the purer: and the rest are ordinarie. The second Summer this light yellow is changed to a sad. The third this sad yellow into a browne: which afterward, as they wax old and corrupt, altereth againe into a blackish and durtic colour: but these being tried will returne to yellow.

The time when Bees gather wax, is onely betweene *Tau- rus* and *Virgo*: (vnlesse *Aries* be milde and warme:) for then they may begin in that month.

**B**ut Hony they gather all the yeere: saue onely in those 3. *still* moneths, when the weather keepeth in both Bees and flowers. v. And it is of two sorts: the one pure and li- quid, which is called *Nectar*, the other grosse and solid, which we may by like reason rearme\* *Ambrosia*. For both serue for the food of these diuine creatures.

\* Yea rather this is the true *Nectar* & *Ambrosia* wherewith *Iupiter* was first nourished in the Ile of *Crete*, v. c. 4. n. 6, while the *Curetes* hid him frō *Saturn*. Which gaue occasion to the Poets of this fiction, that the Bees were his nurses.

murks. *Dicitur* call regem parare sub antro. *Virg. Georg. 4.* And afterward, when they would make him immortal; because of the long-preserving vertue that hony hath, (*Virg. 10. par. 3. v. 1.*) they fained it to be his immortall food. *Insuet Ambrosia sicut est & nectare vivit. Mart. 1. 2. 1. Ep. 58.*

The grosse hony is gathered by their fangs: from whence it is conueied by the fore-legs to the thighes of the hin-legs. (*Quae flores comportant prioribus pedibus femina onerant propter id natura scabra, pedes priores rostro: totaq; onusta remeant sarcina pandata*) and that so nimbly, that vnlesse you haue a quicke eie, you can scarce perceiue it.

This worke may best be seene in the spring, when they gather vpon the blackthorne: for then by reason of the cold they are not so quicke.

When they haue brought these burdens home; they vnload them into the dry cells for the young to feed on, which are not yet able to flie abroad. And in the beginning and ending of the yeere, looke what they saue when the weather is faire, they lay vp for themselves against a rainy day. Which, while it is good, they will feed on, to saue their *Nectar* as much as may bee. But this kinde of hony is like vnto fresh fish: it must not long be kept. For if being laid vp in the cells, by reason of plenty that comes in fresh and fresh, it lye vnspent; after a while it corrupteth, and of sweet becommeth the sowrest and the most vnsauory of all things both to taste and smell: which then they commonly call Stopping or Coome. Where there is any store of this stuffe, it doth so offend the Bees, that oft times it maketh them to forsake all. Most of them will that yeere goe forth in swarmes: and those few that are least will neuer prosper.

Anent this leg-stuffe or grosse hony there is a generall error. For, without all scruple or doubt, men doe count it and call it wax: (as did some also in time of old, whose opinion *Aristotle* doth thus deliuer: *Ceram apes perreptando flores capiunt priorum acumine pedum: mox priores in medios abstergunt, & medios in blas posteriorum.*) But against (as I shall shew you) both sense and reason.

If you put it to your tongue, it hath the taste of hony: which wax hath not. If you feele it betweene your warme fingers,

18.

How Ambrosia or grosse hony is gathered.

Nat. hist. li. ix. c. 10.

19.

Ambrosia, is the Schadons food, as water their drinke.

20.

Being kept it is soone corrupted.

21.

And then becometh most vnsauory stopping.

22.

Much stopping maketh the Bees forsake their hives.

23.

This Ambrosia is commonly taken for wax.

Hist. l. 9. 40.

24.

Which error is disproved by sense.



7. v. 14.

25.

And reason.

fingers, it müttereth apart : where wax sticketh fast together. If you put it to the fire, it melteth not, as wax doth. And whereas wax is all of one colour, i. white at the first, v. even as those little fallings of the new swarmes; (which is wax indeed) this leg-honie is of diuers colours, white, blacke, yellow, Greene, red, tawny, orange, murry, and of sundry midling colours. Therefore sense doth say it is no wax.

The reasons are two. The first is, because when they gather abundance of this stuffe, they haue neuer the more wax. The other because when they make most wax, they gather none of this.

For prooffe of the first, All the Bees betweene *Virgo* and *Taurus* doe gather abundance of it : and yet are not their combes in this time any whit enlarged. Also one of those old stalls that are full of combes, doth carry more of this matter all the summer long than many swarmes : and yet haue they no more wax at the end of the yeere than at the beginning.

For prooffe of the other, The new swarmes within one weeke, if the weather serue them, will haue halfe filled their hiues with combes : and yet in all this space shall you scarce see one carry any of this. If you would know the reason why the stocks gather so much, and the new swarmes so little; it is because the stocks haue *schadons* which they feed with it, and the new swarmes haue none. And if any foolish Bee doe carry in *Ambrosia*, it is put in a dry cell where it turneth to Stopping, v. as I haue seene within a fortnight after the hiuing.

7. v. 27.

26

And by authority.

Nat. hist. l. 11.

C. 7.

7. v. 27.

Hist. l. 9. c. 40.

And this, though' now it seeme new, yet was it knowne many ages agoe. *Plinie* writeth of it thus : *Præter hæc (i. præter ceram & nectâr) conuehitur erithacæ, quam aliqui sandaracham, alij cerinthum vocant. Hic erit apum dum operantur cibus : qui sæpe invenitur in fauoribus inaniatibus sepositus; & ipse amari saporis.* Speaking in the last words of that which is corrupted v. And before him *Aristotle* himselfe thus: *Mel apibus tum æstate tum hyeme cibo est : sed recondunt alterum quoq; cibarii genus, cui durities cere proxima, quod sandaracham nonnulli appellant.*

The

The *Nectar* or liquid hony the Bees gather with their tongues, whence they let it downe into their bottles, which are within them like vnto bladders: each of them will hold a drop at once. You may see their little bellies strut withall. Men thinke, because they see nothing on their legs, that they come in leere: when they are better and more heavily laden than the other. These bottles, as soone as they come home, they empty into their combs. *Mel ore evomunt in cellas.* This *Nectar*, being cleere as Crystall at the first and liquid as water, when it is two or three yeeres old, becometh white and hard. *Concresoit autem mel concoctum jam tempore: initio enim, ut aqua, dilutum est, & primis diebus sine crassitudine cernitur.* While it continueth liquid, and will runne of it selfe, it is called liue-hony: when it is turned white and hard (euen like vnto sugar) it is called corn-hony, or stone-hony.

And the liue-hony is of two sorts: that which is gathered by a swarme, cleere and crySTALLINE at the first, v. layd vp in virgin-wax, v. and taken the same yeere, is the right virgin-honie: the other, which is yellow and thicker, gathered by an old stall, and therefore kept in corrupter cells with dross and courser hony, is called ordinary.

The first shoot whereof (specially in a plentiful yeere of *Nectar*-dewes) running sheere of it selfe, is a kinde of virgin-hony, v. and little inferiour to the right.

*Nectar*, whether it be ordinary or virgin-hony, is either finer or courser, according as the soile is where it is gathered: v. For the best countries, which yeeld the best wheat and the best wooll, yeeld also the best hony. And therefore the wood-lands of Hampshire haue better honie than the heath, and the champion or field country, better than the wood-lands. The reason is, because where the flowers are most fragrant and vertuous, as well of the fields as gardens, in the purest and sweetest aire; there the hony-dewes, which are extracted from them, are most fine and pure, v. n. 40.

When the cells are full, they close them vp with little filmes of wax, which they will not breake vntill winter and hunger driue them to it. And thus doe they all the summer,

27.  
How the pure  
*Nectar* is gather-  
ed.

Hist. an. li. 5. c.  
22.

Hist. an. li. 5. c.  
23.

28.  
Two sorts of  
*Nectar*.

Liue-hony and  
stone-hony.

29.  
Liue-hony of  
two sorts.

Virgin-hony.

V. c. 10. p. 2. n. 9.

13.

V. n. 14.

30.

The finest ordi-  
nary is a kinde  
of Virgin-hony.

V. c. 10. p. 2. n. 6.

31.

All hony, courser  
or finer, accor-  
ding to the soile.

V. c. 10. p. 2. n. 12.

32.

The full cells they  
close with wax.



descending lower and lower from one cell to another, vntill *Virgo*: after which time they lay vp no more in store. For hony then waxeth scarce abroad: and thenceforth they can gather no more wax to shut it in. As for that which they purchase by fight and forraging, it doth them little good. For the most part of it they presentlie spend: and if they saue any, they halfe fill a few cels with it: which being vncouered, either themselues or some other theecues quicklie deuoure: according to the Prouerbe, *Euill gotten goods are soone spent.*

33.  
Nectar & Ambrosia made of many simples, whereof each month yeeldeth variety.

Nat. hist. lib.  
11. c. 8.

34  
Dandelion containing longest.

35.  
What *Pisces* yeeldeth.

36.  
What *Aries*.

37.  
*Taurus*.

38. 39.

This *Nectar* and *Ambrosia*, together with those sweet and hole some vessels that doe containe them, are gathered from infinite varietie of herbs, flowers, and trees, which God in his provident bounty hath ordained to succeed one another. So that from *Pisces* to *Sagitt.* there neuer want some plants or other, containing these sweets: which the Bees fearly draw from them, without any hurt to the fruits: *Fructibus nullis nocetur.*

The Dent-delion, or after the French pronounciation Dandelion, may well be called *apiastrum* or *mellissophyllon*. For the Bees gather vpon it almost all the yeere. The Dazy and Yellowcrea are next for continuance, but nothing so much regarded.

The Winter Giliflowre and the Hazell are the first. For they spring in *Pisces*, and sometime before. After them the Dazy and the hearb Bearefoot, the Violet, &c.

In *Aries* besides those before named, the Box, the Withy-palme, both greene yeelding *Nectar*, & yellow yeelding *Ambrosia*, Daffadill, Lide-lilie, blackthorne, &c.

In *Taurus* Slow-tree, Plum-tree, Goosebery not blowne, and blowne, Cherry, Peare, Cockbell, which is a Wood-flowre. About the middle of this month the chieftest plants begin to flourish in great abundance: as Apple, Crab, Barbary, Beech, Crowpickes, Charlocke, Rosemary, &c. But specially the plentifull Vetch and Maple. They gather on the flowre of the Maple a whole month together, and somewhat on the flowre of the Vetch when his time is, v. but the greatest store of hony is drawne out of the black Spot of the little

little picked leafe of the Vetch, which groweth on each side the two or three vpper-most ioynts. These they ply continually: I neuer saw Vetches, how farre soeuer from Hives, that for three moneths together (if the weather serued) were not full of Bees.

In *Gemini*, the first moneth of fruitfull Summer, besides those prime Plants, Vetch and Maple, (which now are in their prime) and the rest forenamed, Beanes also, which with their flowers haue also blacke spotted leaues like Vetches, on which sometime they gather, Arch-angell, Barberie, Fumitorie, Ribwort a kinde of Plantanie, Holme or Hollie, Hawthorne, Elder, red Honie-suckle, Red-weede, white Honie-suckle, which they like much better than the red, &c.

In *Cancer*, with the fore-named, the blossome of the Vetch, as well as the Leafe, Benet, Malowes, the soucraigne Tyme, which yeeldeth onely Nectar: and therefore he was deceiued that said *Crura Thymus plena*, Tyme, for the time is lasterh, yeeldeth most and best Honie: and therefore in old time was accounted chiefe, (*Thymus aprissimus ad mellificum. Pastus gratissimus apibus Thymum est.*)

*Dum Thymo pascuntur apes, dum rors cicada.*) *Himettus* in *Greece*, and *Hybla* in *Sicily* were so famous for Bees and Honie, because there grew such store of Tyme: *Propter hoc Sticulum mel fort. palmarum, quod ibi Thymum bonum & frequens est.* The Knap-weed flourisheth about the middle of this moneth, and the Blackberie about a weeke after: Both which, as sweet and plentifull, the Bees much haunt.

But the greatest plentie of the purest Nectar commeth from aboue: which Almighty God doth miraculously distill out of the Aire, (*aere mellis celestia dona*) and hath ordained the *Oake*, among all the trees of the Wood, to receiue and keepe the same vpon his smooth and solide leaues, (*Et quercus sudabant roscida mella*) vntill either the Bees tongue, or the heat of the Sunne haue drawne it away. When there is a Honie-dew, you may perceiue by the Bees: for, as if they smelled it v: by the sweetnesse of the Aire, they presently issue out of their Hives, in great haste following one another:

38.  
*Gemini.*

39.  
*Cancer.*

Pl. Nat. hist. l. 1.  
11. c. 21.  
Hist. l. 9. c. 40.  
Vir. Geor. 4.

Var. l. 3. c. 16.

40  
*Of Honie-dew.*

Virg. Georg.

Virg. Pollio.

41.  
*The Bees worke most earnestly in a Honie-dew.*

V. c. 1. n. 44.



other: and refusing their old haunts, search and seeke after the *Oake*: which for that time shall haue more of their custome, than all the Plants of the Earth. Sometime the *Maple* and *Hazell*, take part with the *Oake*: but little and sel-dome. While the *Honie-dew* lasteth, they are exceeding earnest, plying their businesse like men in Haruest: you may see them so thicke at the *Hive-doore* passing to and fro, that oftentimes they throw downe one an other for haste.

42.  
What the Honie-dew is.

Nat.hist.l. 11.  
c. 13.

Galen. de aliment. li. 3.

V. 443.

Nat.hist. lib. 11  
c. 14.

What this *Mel Roscidum* should be, *Plinie* seemeth much to doubt where he saith, *Sive illud sit uulsi sudor, sive quedam syderum saliva, sive purgantis se aeris succus*. But, if coniectures might be admitted, I would rather iudge it to be the verie quintessence of all the sweetnesse of the earth (which at that time is most plentiful) drawne vp, as other dewes, in vapors into the third Region of the Aire, by the exceeding and continuall heat of the Sunne, and there concrete and condensated by the nightly cold into this most sweet and Soueraigne *Nectar*: and then doth it descend vnto the earth in a dew or small drizzling raine: that he might well say, *Constat materiam, ex qua mel gignitur, rori esse congenerem*. Which opinion is the more probable for these reasons. First because that when the yeare is backward in his fruits, the *Honie-dewes* are also backward: coming onely at such time as the flowers haue the most solid and best iuyce. Before, when the iuyce is weake and waterish, and afterward, when it is dried and wasted, they are not. v. Secondly, because that in more hot & Southernly climats, where the fruits are more forward, the *Hony-dewes* also are more timely: as in *Italy* before *Gemini*. *Non summo*, saith *Plinie*, *primo vergiliarum exorta*: v. whereas with vs they fall not usually

purchase by sight and forraging, it doth them little good. For the most part of it they presentlie spend: and if they saue any, they halfe fill a few cels with it: which being vncouered, either themselves or some other theeues quicklie deuoure: according to the Prouerbe, *Euill gotten goods are soone spent*.

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Nectar & Ambrosia made of many simples, whereof each month yeeldeth variety.

Nat.hist. lib. 11.  
c. 8.

34  
Dandelion consisteth longest.

35.  
What Pistes yeeldeth.

36.  
What Aries.

37.  
Taurus.

V. 439.

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In *Aries* besides those before named, the *Box*, the *Withy-palme*, both Greene yeelding *Nectar*, & yellow yeelding *Ambrosia*, *Daffadill*, *Lide-lilie*, *blackthorne*, &c.

In *Taurus* *Slow-tree*, *Plum-tree*, *Goosebery* not blowne, and blowne, *Cherry*, *Peare*, *Cockbell*, which is a *Wood-flowre*. About the middle of this month the chiefeft plants begin to flourish in great abundance: as *Apple*, *Crab*, *Barbery*, *Beech*, *Crowpickes*, *Charlocke*, *Rosemary*, &c. But specially the plentiful *Vetch* and *Maple*. They gather on the flowre of the *Maple* a whole month together, and somewhat on the flowre of the *Vetch* when his time is, v. but the greatest store of hony is drawne out of the black Spot of the little



and dry weather) and in the end it dissolueth them quite.

The time in which these Honie-dewes fall, is vsually betweene the first and last daies of this moneth: although the continuance of hot and dry weather may cause them come somewhat rather, or last somewhat longer, even vntill mid-*Leo* or \* after. They may happen at any time of the day: but for the most part in the morning before it be light: *Sub lucanis temporibus. Itaq; tum prima aurora folia arborum melle roscida inveniuntur.* And then shall you haue the Bees vp in a morning as soone as they can see, making such a shrill noise where they goe, that, as merrie Gossips when they meet, a man may heare them farther than see them.

\* In the yeare 1613. almost two moneths after the vsual time, namely in the later part of *Virgo*, there fell diuers Honie-dewes: which came to passe by reason that continuall wet kept them backe in their due time, and *Virgo* followed exceeding hot, fit weather for them. But because the state of the flowers was then weake, the state of those Honie-dewes also was so weake, that the Bees were little the better for them. The stalls, that were taken, proued light: and most of the swarmes and stocks, that were kept for store, died for want before the end of Winter. Except onely in the Heath Countries, where the Heath-flower being then in his prime, those late Honie-dewes made fat stalls.

In *Leo* Vetches, Malowes, Tyme, Knap-weede, Blackeberry, white Honie-suckle, Redweed, Thistle, Melone, &c.

Now also doe they gather on the Lauender, if their haitie Dames doe not gather it from them before it be readie.

In *Virgo* Knap-weed, Black-berry, Redweed, Dandelion, Malowes, Borage, &c. and the ample Heath, which yeeldeth Honie like vnto their Wooll. *V. n. 31. and c. 10. p. 2. n. 12.*

In *Libra* Dandelion. Heath. Iuie. &c.

In *Gemini*, the first moneth of fruitfull Summer, besides those prime Plants, Vetch and Maple, (which now are in their prime) and the rest forenamed: Beanes also, which with their flowers haue also blacke spotted leaues like Vetches, on which sometime they gather, Arch-angell, Barberie, Fumitorie, Ribwort a kinde of Plantanie, Holme or Hollie, Hawthorne, Elder, red Honie-suckle, Red-weede, white Honie-suckle, which they like much better than the red, &c.

In *Cancer*, with the fore-named, the blossome of the Vetch, as well as the Lease, Benet, Malowes, the soucraigne Tyme, which yeeldeth onely *Nectar*: and therefore he was deceiued that said *Crua Thymus plena*, Tyme, for the time is lasterh, yeeldeth most and best Honie: and therefore in old time was accounted chiefe, (*Thymus aptissimus ad mellificum. Pastus gratissimus apibus Thymum est.*)

*Dum Thymo pascuntur apes, dum ror cicada.*

*Himettus* in *Greece*, and *Hybla* in *Sicily* were so famous for Bees and Honie, because there grew such store of Tyme: *Propter hoc Siculum uel fort. palmarum, quod ibi Thymum bonum & frequens est.* The Knap-weed flourisheth about the middle of this moneth, and the Blackberry about a weeke after: Both which, as sweet and plentifull, the Bees much haunte.

But the greatest plentie of the purest *Nectar* commeth from aboue: which Almighty God doth miraculously distill out of the Aire, (*aerei mellis celestia dona*) and hath ordained the *Oake*, among all the trees of the Wood, to receiue and keepe the same vpon his smooth and solide leaues, (*Et quercus sudabant roscida mella*) vntill either the Bees tongue, or the heat of the Sunne haue drawne it away. When there is a Honie-dew, you may perceiue by the Bees: for, as if they smelled it: by the sweetnesse of the Aire, they presently issue out of their Hives, in great haste following one another:

44  
The time when they fall.

Nat. Hist. lib. 1. c. 12.

What Leo yeeldeth.

46.  
Virgo.

47.  
Gemini.

39.  
Cancer.

Pl. nat. hist. l. 11. c. 31.  
Hist. l. 9. c. 40.  
Vir. Geor. 4.

Var. l. 3. c. 16.

40  
Of Honie-dewes.

Virg. Georg.

Virg. Pollio.

41.  
The Bees worke most earnestly in a Honie-dew.

V. c. 1. n. 44.



other: and refusing their old haunts, search and seeke after the *Oake*: which for that time shall haue more of their custome, than all the Plants of the Earth. Sometime the *Maple* and *Hazell*, take part with the *Oake*: but little and seldom. While the *Honie-dew* lasteth, they are exceeding earnest, plying their businesse like men in Haruest: you may see them so thicke at the *Hive-doore* passing to and fro, that oftentimes they throw downe one an other for haste.

42.  
What the *Honie-dew* is.

Nat.hist.l. 11.  
c. 12.

What this *Mel Roscidum* should be, *Plinie* seemeth much to doubt where he saith, *Sive illud sit oculi sudor, sive quadam syderum saliva, sive purgantis se aeris succus*. But, if coniectures might be admitted, I would rather iudge it to be the verie quintessence of all the sweetness of the earth (which at that time is most plentiful) drawne vp, as other dewes, in vapors into the third Region of the Aire, by the exceeding and continuall heat of the Sunne, and there concrete and condensated by the nightly cold into this most sweet and Soueraigne *Nectar*: and then doth it descend vnto the earth in a dew or small drizzling raine: that he might well say, *Constat materiam, ex qua mel gignitur, rori esse congenerem*. Which opinion is the more probable for these reasons. First because that when the yeare is backward in his fruits, the *Honie-dewes* are also backward: comming onely at such time as the flowers haue the most solid and best iuyce. Before, when the iuyce is weake and waterish, and afterward, when it is dried and wasted, they are not. v. Secondly, because that in more hot & Southernly climats, where the fruits are more forward, the *Honie-dewes* also are more timely: as in *Italy* before *Gemini*. *Non omnino*, saith *Plinie*, *prius vergiliarum exortu*: v. whereas with vs they fall not vsually before *Cancer*. And thirdly, because the Countries that haue store of the best and sweetest flowers, haue euer the best *Honie*. v. n. 29.

Galen. de aliment. li. 3.

V. \* in 43.

Nat.hist. lib. 11  
c. 12.

V. \* 10 p. 1. n. 20

43.  
When the *Honie-dewes* are most frequent.

The hotter and drier the Summer is, the greater and more frequent are the *Honie-dewes*: cold and wet weather is vnto kinde for them: much raine at any time, as comming from a higher Region, washeth away that which is alreadye eleuated: (so that there can be no more vntill an other fit of hot and

and dry weather) and in the end it dissolueth them quite.

The time in which these Honie-dewes fall, is vsually betweene the first and last daies of this moneth: although the continuance of hot and dry weather may cause them come somewhat rather, or last somewhat longer, even vntill mid-*Leo* or \* after. They may happen at any time of the day: but for the most part in the morning before it be light: *Sub lucanis temporibus. Itaq; tum prima aurora folia arborum melle roscida inveniuntur.* And then shall you haue the Bees vp in a morning as soone as they can see, making such a shrill noise where they goe, that, as merrie Gossips when they meet, a man may heare them farther than see them.

44  
The time when  
they fall.

Nat. Hist. li. 11.  
c. 12.

\* In the yeare 1613. almost two moneths after the vsuall time, namely in the later part of *Virgo*, there fell diuers Honie-dewes: which came to passe by reason that continuall wet kept them backe in their due time, and *Virgo* followed exceeding hot, fit weather for them. But because the state of the flowers was then weake, the state of those Honie-dewes also was so weake, that the Bees were little the better for them. The stalls, that were taken, proued light: and most of the swarmes and stocks, that were kept for store, died for want before the end of Winter. Except onely in the Heath Countries, where the Heath-flower being then in his prime, those late Honie-dewes made fat stalls.

In *Leo* Vetches, Malowes, Tyme, Knap-weede, Blacke-berie, white Honie-suckle, Redweed, Thistle, Melone, &c.

What *Leo* yeeldeth.

Now also doe they gather on the Lauender, if their hastie Dames doe not gather it from them before it be readie.

In *Virgo* Knap-weed, Black-berie, Redweed, Dandelion, Malowes, Borage, &c. and the ample Heath, which yeeldeth Honie like vnto their Wooll. *V. n. 31. and c. 10. p. 2. n. 12.*

46.

*Virgo.*

In *Libra* Dandelion, Heath, Iuie, &c.

47.

*Libra.*

In *Scorpio* Dandelion, Iuie, Arch-angel, &c.

48.

*Scorpio.*

And in this great varietie this is strange, that where they beginne they will make an end: and not meddle with any flowre of other sort, vntill they haue their load. *Mos apibus ne florum plura genera petant uno eodemq; profectu, sed singulis singula.* Insomuch that those which beginne with the flower of the Vetch will not once touch the rich spotted leafe of the same, before they haue beene at home. Although when they come to a flower that yeeldeth both *Nectar* and

49.  
The Bees gather  
but of one kinde  
of flower in one  
voyage.

Hist. an. l. 9. c.

40.



50

They gather Honie out of poison.

Mathers or May-weed, *Cotula serotina*.

51.

What store of Honie a stall may haue.

Nat. hist. li. 11.

c. 24.

De legatione Moscovitarū, &amp; Munsterus de Moscovia.

*Ambrosia*, they will vse sometime the Tongue, and sometime the Fangs, and gather them both.

But this may seeme more strange and wonderfull, that out of the most stinking and poisonfull weeds, as Redweed, \* Margs, Henbane, and the like, they gather most sweet and holeesome Honie: and yet regard not some of the best and sweetest Hearbs and Flowers, as the Rose, the Prim-rose, Cloue-Gilflowers; Wheat, Barley, Pease, &c.

What store of Wax and Honie a stall may gather, is uncertaine: some hauing more, some lesse, according to the number of the Bees, the greatnesse of the Hue, and the plentifulnesse of the yeares. With vs it is counted a good stall that yeeldeth two or three gawnes of Pulse: although in a tree there haue bene found more than seuen or eight. But in other Northerne Countries we reade of farre greater quantities. *Plinie* affirmeth, that there was seene in *Germany* a Honie-comb eight foot long. And *Paulus Iovius*, that in *Moscovia* there are found in the Woods and Wildernesles great Lakes of Honie, which the Bees haue forsaken, in the hollow trunks of maruellous huge trees. In so much that Honie and Wax are the most certaine commodities of that Countrey. Where, by that occasion, he setteth downe this Storie, reported by *Demetrius* a *Moscovite* Ambassadour sent to *Rome*. A neighbour of mine (saith he) searching in the woods for Honie, slipt downe into a great hollow tree, and there sunke into a Lake of Honie vp to the breast: where when he had stucke fast two daies, calling and crying out in vaine for helpe, because no bodie in the meane while came nigh that solitarie place; at length when he was out of all hope of life, he was strangely deliuered by the meanes of a great Beare: which comming thither about the same businesse that he did, and smelling the Honie stirred with his striuing, clambered vp to the top of the tree, and thence began to let himselfe downe backward into it. The man bethinking himselfe, and knowing that the worst was but death, which in that place he was sure of, beclipt the Beare fast with both his hands about the loines, and withall made an out-cry as lowd as he could. The Beare being thus suddenly

dainely affrighted, what with the handling, and what with the noise, made vp againe with all speed possible: the man held, and the Beare pulled, vntill with maine force he had drawne *Dun out of the mire*: and then, being let goe, away he trots, *more afeard then hurt*, leauing the smeared Swaine in a ioyfull feare.

**T**HE Bees earnest and hot Labour, and the drought of the Aire, together with their cholerike Complexion, which their very hue bewrayeth, doth cause them much to desire cold Water. Somethinke it serueth onely to feed their Schadons: (*Aquam tum portant, cum prolem nutriunt*) v: and that not without reason, seeing that *Ambrosia* their daily food is hot and dry: and indeed when the Drones are done away, and breeding is ended, the Bees are nothing so frequent at the warring-places. But *Columella* thinketh the vse thereof to be more generall, *Sine qua neq, favi, neq, mel-la. nec pulli deniq, figurari queunt*. Vnto whom the Poet, in the place first cited in this Chapter, seemeth to assent; making water and flowers the common matter of their three workes.

The Warring-place should<sup>a</sup> not be farre from your Garden,<sup>b</sup> in the next side of a Pond or Brooke,<sup>c</sup> made sheluing, not very steepe, in manner of a Foord, and<sup>d</sup> defended from Beasts, Geese, Duckes, and such like: and especially young Ducklings, v. ¶ 3. in n. 59.

<sup>a</sup> For they will neuer goe farre for water, if any be to be had neere hand. *Sub manibus urbis aquantur*. And therefore when you see Bees warring in woods or other places, not neere any Hives; bee sure those are wilde Bees, which are not farre from their nest. Watch them therefore which way they flie: for they will thence directly to it. Which if it be not within view, take a Reede or Kex, or some like hollow thing open at one end, with a chinke cut in the other to let in light: and taking vp a Bee by the wings put her into the Cane, and shut her in with your thumb: while she goeth downe to the light, put in an other, and so as many as you thinke good. And then where you last see the Bees flying homeward from the water, goe to that place, and there let out one of the Bees in the box: which, when she hath cast a Ring to know where she is, will fly as directly home as the other: likewise where you see her last, let out another: and so the rest, vntill they haue brought you to the stall.

52.  
Bees haue neces-  
sarie vse of wa-  
ter.

53.  
Chiefly for their  
breed.  
Hist. an. l. 9. c. 40  
V. 6. 7. n. 24.

De re rust. l. 9.  
c. 5.

54.  
The making of  
the Watering-  
place.

Virg. Geor.

l. 5.  
How to finde  
wilde Bees.



• Lest the Bees, flying over the water vnto it, bee throwne downe by tempestuous winds, and so drowned: for which cause it is good to lay lugs ouerthwart the water, and other staies; that recovering them they may dry themselues againe, and so escape.

Virg. Geor.

*In medium, seu stabit iners seu profluat humor,  
Transversas salices & grandia conijce saxa,  
Pontibus ut crebris possint consistere, & aldi  
Pandere ad aëstrum solem, si forte morantes  
Sparsit, aut praeceps Neptuno immersit Euræ.*

• That they may safely settle vpon it, and that it may alwaies be kept moist by the neerenesse of the water. For they choose rather to draw their drinke out of moist earth, than from the water it selfe, though it be neuer so cleare: peradventure that the earth hauing receiued his earthinesse, which before was insensibly mixt with the water, their triple searching tongue might the better trie out the pure element of water.

• Which otherwise will be the death of many: for they are so earnest in their businesse, that though you offer to tread vpon them, they will not moue.

36.

Bee-troughes in  
Gardens profitable.

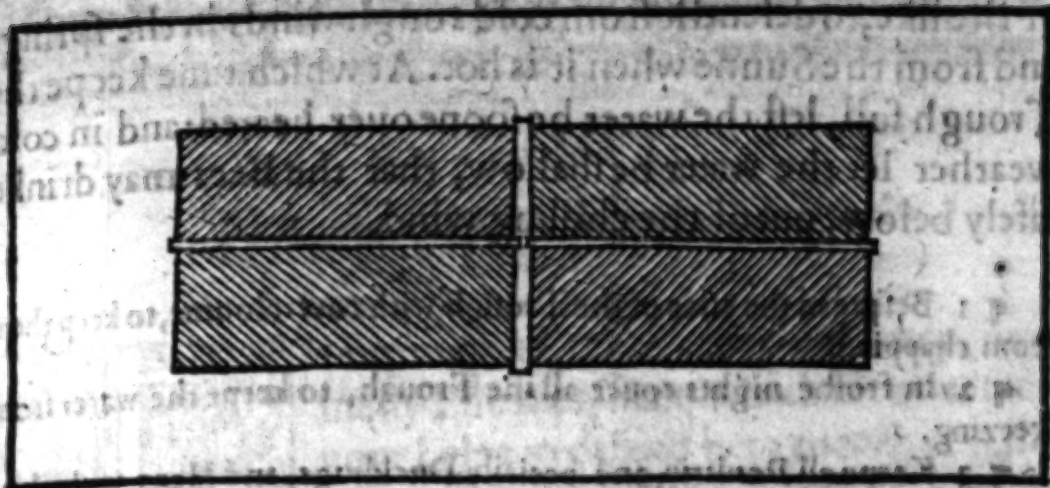
V. n. 33.

But because in the cold windie weather of the Spring, (at which time of the yeare the Bees haue most vse of water, v.) these watering places of Ponds and Brookes are dangerous; (where you may then see many throwne downe and drowned, and others, that scape drowning, to be so chilled, when they haue filled themselues with cold water; that they are not able to endure the wind, but faile and fall by the way) therefore it is behoueful to haue Troughes in your gardens, made for the nonce: whence the Bees may both sooner and safer fetch their water.

57.

The forme and  
size of a Bee-  
trough.

For the forme and size of a Trough, let his hollownesse be two foot in length, seuen or eight inches in breadth, and foure in depth; the bottome foure inches thicke; the ends six or seuen; and the sides halfe so much. Moreover, let the hollownesse be diuided into foure equall parts, by one partition of inch-board, in the middle from side to side; and by two partitions of halfe-inch-board, from each end vnto the middle partition: after this fashion.



And to keepe the Bees from danger of drowning, vnto which they are very obnoxious, (for if they but touch the water with their wings, they cannot rise from it) let each Quarter of the Trough haue his Couer, in thickeſſe about halfe an inch, in breadth and length fitting to his Quarter; but ſo, that without let it may riſe and fall with the water.

The matter of this Couer muſt be corke, which muſt as well haue open ſpaces for the water to take aire; as places for the Bees to light on: leſt it being couered too cloſe, doe corrupt and become vnſauourie. It is beſt to diuide each couer into two equall parts: and in the edges on both ſides to cut little nickes. And ſo this may be the forme of it.



Other faſhions both of their Troughes, and of their Couers, may be deuifed: but theſe haue ſeemed to me in all reſpects moſt fitting.

A new Trough thus framed and fitted, is to be ſeaſoned before it be vſed, by often ſcalding it, and changing the foule water; vntill, hauing ſtood a day or two, it remaineth cleare, and without a gliſtering ſlime: afterward the older and more earthie it is, the better they like it.

The Trough being ſeaſoned, ſet in ſome conuenient place, about a perche from the Bees; hauing a moueable plancke,

58.  
*The trough-co-  
uer, and the uſe  
of it.*

59.  
*The ſeaſoning  
and ordering of  
the Bee-trough.*



or the like, to defend it from cold rough winds in the spring, and from the Sunne when it is hot. At which time keepe the Trough full, lest the water be soone ouer-heated: and in cold weather let the water be shallow, that the Bees may drinke safely below, out of the chilling wind.

¶ 1 Bespread the ends of the Trough with cow-cloome, to keep them from chapping.

¶ 2 In frostie nights couer all the Trough, to keepe the water from freezing.

¶ 3 Keepe all Poultrie, and specially Ducklings, and Hens with chicken, out of your Garden: for, drinking at the Troughes, they will trouble, and tread vpon the Bees. And the brood-hens will kill them, for feare of stinging their chicken: and so will Ducklings also at the first, taking them for flies; which when they haue tasted, they will afterwards let alone.

60.  
Bee-troughes of  
stone.

61.  
Sometime they  
water in the  
streets.

62.  
And after a  
showre, all a-  
bout the garden.  
F. c. 4. n. 13.

You may also make good Troughes of Free-stone, with wooden partitions let into the stone: but they are more apt to chill the Bees in cold weather, vntill they be mossie,

Sometime they will lie sucking at the neere plashe, puddles, and mire in the streets: where many are trod vnder foot of men and beasts. See therefore that such places be kept cleane and drie.

After a showre they water for the most part in your Garden vpon the bare earth, the grasse, and wheresoeuer they finde it wet from aboue. In the chiefe breeding months *Aries*, *Taurus* and *Gemini*, v. when the cold raine or wind hath kept them in some part of the day, they will lie so thick vpon the ground, if you haue any store; that you can scarce tread beside them. At such time therefore let no heedlesse stranger come among them.

## CHAP. VII

*Of the Bees Enemies.*

He good Bee, as other good things, hath many Enemies, from which shee needeth your helpe to defend her: namely, 1.the Mouse, 2.the Wood-pecker, 3.the Tit-mouse, 4.the Swallow, 5.the Horner, 6.the Wasp, 7.the Moth, 8.the Snail, 9.the Emet, 10.the Spider, 11.the Toad, 12.the Frog, 13.the Bee, and 14.the Weather.

The Mouse, whether he be of the field or of the house, is a dangerous Enemy. For if he get into a Hiue, he teareth downe the Combes, makes hauocke of the Honie, and so starues the Bees. Some enter by the doore, or by some open place in the skirts of the Hiue: some gnaw a hole thorow in the top of the Hiue, where they know the Honie lieth: some keepe their old homes, and come to the Hiue onely for their baits: some make their nests betweene the Hackle and the Hiue, that they may the sooner and the safer come to the Honie at their pleasure.

For remedie, first you must looke that your Hiues, whether they be of straw or wicker, be close and fast wrought. For if the straw be loose and soft, they will more easily gnaw their way thorow: and if the wicker be thinne, when they haue torne downe the cloome, they will creepe in betweene the twigs. Next see that the Hiues be daubed close round about the skirts, that there be no entring but by the Doore: which in *Taurus*, when the Bees come downe to watch, and thenceforth all the Summer, they will keepe well enough both day and night: but all the Winter, at which time the Mice make most spoile, it must be made so narrow, that they cannot get in. v. Also it behoueth you to remoue all things about your Hiues, that may hide and harbour them, v. for they will feare

1.  
*The Bees Enemies are many.*

2.  
*The Mouse.*

3.  
*Remedies against the Mouse.*

V. c. 3. n. 31.

3  
to V. c. 2. n. 8.



4

V.c. 5. n. 23.

5

to come and goe in sight, lest the Cat meet with them by the way. Moreouer, it is good now and then, in drie and warme daies, to take off the hackles, as well for this as for other causes. v. Those that nestle vpon the top of the Hiue, when the hackle is taken off, will sit still amazed so long, that you may be sure to crush them against the Hiue with your hand. Lastly, you shall doe well to set baited \* traps in their way, that so they may come short.

A Samsons post.

\* There is none better than a Samsons Post: which is a flat Coner or Roofe supported by a triangular Pillar or Prop, whose three sides doe so hold one by another, through the weight of the Roofe, that the loosing of one is the loosing of all: and so the Prop failing the Roofe falleth.

The Roofe.

The Roofe may bee a Plankes or Boords end, or the like, twelve inches long and ten broad: which of it selfe, or with some aduantage weigheth foure or five pound.

The parts of the Prop.

The three sides or parts of the Prop (namely, the Post, the Sweeke, and the Brace) are three sticks, all almost halfe an inch broad, and halfe a quarter of an inch thicke.

The Post.

The Post is moreouer three inches and a halfe long, and sharpened at one end.

The Brace.

The Brace likewise three inches and a halfe long, and sharpe at one end; with a nicke on the broad side halfe an inch within the other end.

The Sweeke.

And the Sweeke eight inches long, with a nicke on the vpper broad side a little within the out-end; and another on the left edge, two inches and the thickest of the Post within the broad nicke.

The framing of the Prop.

The parts of the Prop being thus formed apart, are to be framed together in a triangle, after this manner. First, take the Brace in your left hand and beare vp the fore-side of the Roofe with the blunt end, the nicke being inward: then set vp the Post somewhat leaning toward you, with his sharpe end in the nicke of the Brace: then hooke the edge-nicke of the Sweeke to the Post: and make all fast with the sharpe edge of the Brace fixed in the broad nicke of the Sweeke.

The baiting of the Sweeke.

But first bait the Sweeke with a thinn pece of good Cheese, or Bacon, or Suet, tyed with a thread vpon the inner end. And bee sure that the Prop doe stand so fickle that it may easily be loosed: and that the Roofe when it falleth, lie flat and euen with the Floore, lest the poore Mouse lose his labour.

*Sed inftar omnium erit hoc unum. R. Farina 1. auenacee v. va arida dulcis Drashmas IV. tere: 2. Arsenica alba 3. semi-drachmam, in puluerem quam queas 4. minimum per se perire: 5. sacchari puri semi-drachmam cum arsenica coitete: saccharatam arsenicam farina permisceto. 6. Compositum hunc puluerem laterculis superimpositum, iuxta murium cava, & in locis*

ab hisdem frequentatis (7. rateris amotis esculentis) dispone. Sed nocte primâ simplicem expone farinam : cui vorata farinam saccharatam substituas secundâ : terciâ triplex hic pulvis succedat : qui jam audaces satis & nihil suspicantes ; anarum vel trium spatio nocturno, & mures & sorices pariter, edes tuas infestantes una omnes perdet. Si verò aduersus luxuriantes sorices certius velis remedium, cum pertrita arsenica drachma una contere sacchari drachmam unam : saccharatam arsenicam bynes dulcis molite uncia uni permisceto, & tribus quatuorue locis frequentatis dispone. Aut etiam ibidem passas arsenicâ merâ pertritâ intus modicè aspersas. Sed diligenter cura, ne Canes, Gallina, aliave innocua animalia istud degustent : quod facies, si noctu tantum expositum interdum recondas.

1. Vel tritice.
2. Pura.
3. Ut arsenica sit tantum decima compositionis portio : nam si prædominetur mures, & magis sorices, virum odorantes recusant escam, quam vite compositionem autem vorant : sed modicum sufficit.
4. Ne mandantes durities offendat.
5. Et quod dulcedine oblectat, & quod, ut arsenica bene trita, inter dentes stridet : hoc enim secundâ nocte tuis vorantes, terciâ arsenicam, quam stridore & colore refert, minas metuent.
6. Quantitas nucis avellana singulis sufficit laterculis.
7. Nam si alia suppetant cibaria, fucatas escas denitunt : nec ubi frans semel subleuatis, vllis postea decipulis facile decipientur.

The Wood-pecker or Yippingale, if hee finde any hoale in the Hiue against the Honie, doth with his long round tongue draw it out : but he doth more harme to Wood-Bees then Garden-Bees.

Of Titmouse, there are three sorts. The great Titmouse (which of his colly head and breast some call a Colemouse) is a very harmefull Bird. For although sometime hee seeme content with dead Bees, yet is hee a great deuourer of the quicke also. In winter hee taketh them at the Hiue as they come forth : when the cold makes them keepe in, hee will stand at the doore, and there neuer leaue knocking till one come to see who is there : and then suddenly catching her, away he flies with her : and when he hath eaten her, he comes againe for more : eight or nine will scarce serue his turne at once. If the doore be shut that none can come forth, hee labours to remoue the Barre : if that be too heauie, he falls to

moining

2. The Wood-pecker.

3. The Titmouse.

6. The subtill practice of the Titmouse.



mooring about the doore for a new way : and when these deuices cannot get them out ; some haue the skill to breake the wals of the daubed Hives above, ouer against the place where they lie : and there they are sure to haue their purpose. But in the Spring, when the Bees come to the palme, hee standeth there watching for them ; and while they are busie at their worke hee deuoureth many. The little Ruffet one in the Winter feedeth only on dead Bees ; but in the Spring he will take part with the great one. The little Greene Titmouse I cannot accuse : except it be only for eating a few dead Bees, and that but seldome in some hungrie time.

2

3

7.

4. The Swallow.  
Nat. hist. li. 11.  
c. 18.  
Nat. hist. li. 10.  
cap. 24.

The Swallow taketh them as they flie, *Populatur hirundo.* & alibi, *Ea demum sola avium non nisi in volatu pascitur.* But I am perswaded shee doth much lesse harme than the Titmouse, although she haue a worse name. The Long-winged Hauke makes the fairer flight ; but the Short-winged is the Kitchen-hauke. These birds therefore are not to be suffered.

Virg.

8.

Remedie against  
the Titmouse  
and Swallow.

Hic. l. 9. c. 40.

*Ab sine meropeseq; aliisq; volucres.*  
*Et manibus Prognepectus signata cruentis.*

Let boyes destroy their nests in Summer, and catch the Titmouse in Winter, with \* Traps baited with dead Bees, Oats, or Tallow. Aristotle ioyneth the Waspe, the little Titmouse, the Swallow, and the great Titmouse together. *Inferunt injuriam apibus maxime vespæ, & avicula quas paruos vocant, atque etiam hirundo, & merops qui apiaster est. Quamobrem apiarij vespærum latibula, & hirundinum ac meropum nidos propinquos alveis tollunt.*

\* As Cage-traps, Pit-falls, and Samsons-Posts ( & in n. 3 ) But then set a Lath before the Prop, leaning from the Floore to the Rooft, lest the busie Bird throw it downe for nothing.

9.

4. The Hornet.

The Hornet also deuoureth Bees : being so much too strong for them, that they can make no resistance. Which the Poet meant where he said,

Virg.

*Aut asper crabro imparibus se immiscuit armis.*

Hir manner is to fly about before the hive, till she haue spied hir prey settled at the doore: and then suddenly she taketh it in hir feet, and flicth away with it as a Kite with a Chicke.

In

In destroying the Hornets you must bee warie: for one stinging doth oftentimes cause a Fever, and lesse than thirtie, as some say, will kill a man. *Letus crabronum laud temerò sine febrì est. Auctores sunt et novenis punctis interfici hominam.*

The Wasp doth much more hurt than the Horner. For the Horner now and then killeth a Bee: but the Wasp wasteth the Honie, whereby many whole Stalls doe perish. For, besides the harme that she doth hir selfe, she doth oftentimes set the Robber v. on worke: who, when the Wasp hath begun, will be readie to take part with her, and then all goes to wracke. A Wasp is by nature harder and stronger than a Bee, specially in *Libra*: insomuch that oftentimes she breaketh from two or three of them, though they haue all hold of her at once: and perhaps killeth one of them out of hand. At *Cancer*, or, the Spring being hot and drie, in the later part of the former moneth, the Wasp beginneth to bee bred: v. within a moneth after shee first appeareth: and in a while shee beginneth to feed vpon dead and weake Bees: which shee quickly cutting off in the middle with hir Fangs, first carrieth away the neather-part; and anon fetcheth the other, when she hath bitten off the wings (for easier carriage) not farre from the place where shee took it vp.

Within a moneth after hir coming abroad, shee waxeth bold, and aduventureth into the Hines for honie: but, by reason of the strangeness of hir voice and habit, shee is descried before shee come neere. And at the first (while the weather is warme, and the Bees both early and late keepe watch and ward at the Hiues doore) comming single against many, shee is commonly repulsed, and sent backe againe with a Flea in hir eare: and if by chance shee slip in, shee doth not alwaies escape. Sometime shee is killed in the Hiue, and brought forth dead: sometime without the doore, when she hath got hir prey. But afterwards, the weather waxing cold, and specially in mornings and euenings, and the Bees therefore retiring from the doore higher into the Hiue; the Wasps make great spoile, specially among them that are weake. And this they continue vntill *Scorpio*: after which time they begin to weare. Neuerthelesse while they liue, that is vntill

10.  
The Hornets  
sing is dangerous.

Nat. hist. li. 11.  
c. 21.

11.  
6. The Wasp.

P. n. 25.

V. 4. 2. 8.

12.  
When she feedeth  
vpon Bees.

13.  
When she stealeth  
Honie.

14.  
When they weare  
away.



15.

In what yeere the  
Wasps are few.

7. 4. 11. 8.

*Sagittarius* ( if abundance of cold and wet rid them not a little rather ) they will be filching : and one Wasp will car-  
rie out as much as two Bees bring in.

The Winter wet and cold , killeth many of the Mother-  
Wasps v. as they lie in their sleepe. The Spring wet and cold  
hindereth their breeding : for being by that meanes kept in,  
when their time is come to flie abroad and feed ; they pine  
and faint, so that either they breed not at all, or verie late.  
And when a warme fit in the beginning of *Aries* hauing  
let them abroad, cold and stormie weather commeth sudden-  
ly vpon them ; they are shut vp againe, and so starue for the  
most part with hunger and cold : that your Bees shall not be  
much troubled with them in such a yeere. Yea continuance  
of wet, though without cold, is such an enemy to the Wasps,  
that in the yeere 1613, though, the former Summer being  
exceeding dry, the Wasps were multiplied, and the Winter  
being milde, the Mother-Wasps were many at first ; yet the  
Rainie Spring and Summer, did so spill their nests, that  
there were no small Wasps scene till *Libra*, and then ve-  
rie few.

16.

In what yeere  
they abound.

But the Winter being milde, and the Spring and Sum-  
mer continuing warme and dry, they liue and breed in eu-  
rie place : that, without continuall and diligent attendance,  
you shall be sure of great losse among your Bees, though the  
former yeere there were but few : For one nest yeeldeth  
breeders enough, if they should all liue, to store a whole  
countrey.

For these causes, *Ann. 1611.* there were euery where such multitudes,  
that the like I thinke was not knowne before in our memorie : insomuch  
that within two or three Furlongs of my Garden, were killed that Sum-  
mer about fiftie great nests : ( and yet, by the resort to our Bees, we  
knew we had not all ) besides 23. Mother-Wasps killed in the Spring  
at our Bee-trough, which would haue made so many nests. And 1620.  
for the same causes the number was as great or greater : and yet the ex-  
ceeding wet Summer following I saw not one small Wasp.

17.

Remedies against  
the Wasps.

Wherefore, if you loue your Bees, suffer not a Wasps  
nest about you.

The ready way to rid them, is, If they be in a Tree about  
the

the hoale, to smother them with Brimstone or Bunt, as you kill Bees. If in the Thatch of an house, (when you haue made way to the Combes) to scald them. If in the ground (as most commonly they are) you may likewise scald them, and so take the Combes out whole, and giue the Grubs to your Chicken: although the Boyes make better sport in burning them. But if you be in haste, and care onely to dispatch them quickly and quietly, thus doe. First, stop their way close; that they within breake not out vpon you (for those that are abroad comming home wearie and loaded are more gentle.) Then presently with a \* Waspe-spade search for the Nest: which, if it be shallow, is quickly found. When you haue found it (which you shall know by the easie entrance of the Spade) then dig downe round about it: and hauing thus rounded the Nest, stamp the earth downe vpon the Combes, and so haue you done. If you finde not the Nest because it lyeth † deepe; then dig vp the ground a foot about the hoale; and hauing found their way, stop it fast with earth, and tread in that you digged out, and let them alone. If this be done in the day when many are abroad; the eueing or morning following you may kill them with your foot: but in the eueing you may take them all together.

2.  
3.  
4.

\* Which is a thin Iron one, whose Padle is not aboue foure inches broad next the Socket, and thence tapered vnto three inches at the steeld point, and eight or nine inches long. If it bee broader it is not so apt to enter, and so to finde and round the Nest: and a thicker one is apt to let out the fresh Waspes, that will trouble your worke: but you may make a shift with any ordinarie Spade or Padle-staffe.

† In Corne-ground the Nest is begonne vnder a Furrow, and therefore is alwaies shallow: in old laine it is begonne in a Want-hole, and therefore it is sometime shallow, and sometime deepe.

5.

And to destroy those that resort to your Hives, set by them Sider, Vertjuice, sowre Drinke, or Grounds, in a short necked Violl open, or other Glasse couered with a Paper that hath a hoale in the middle: and so you shall catch many. Also you may take of sweet Apples, or Peares, or beasts Liuer, or other flesh, or any thing that they loue, foure or fife slices or more, and lay them in so many seuerall places among your Bees:



Hist. l. 9. c. 40.

vpon which you shall haue sometime as many as will couer the Bait, which you may kill at once, as Butchers kill Flies. Aristotle teacheth you an other way: *Impugnantur* (saith he) *Apes à vespis: quamobrem Apiarij eas venantur confuturâ ollâ, & carne in ea posita. Vbi enim multa ad carnem accesserint, apposito operculo super ignem ollam ponunt.* You may also vse other meanes to kill them your selfe. How to helpe and defend your Bees against them, see c. 3. n. 46. 47. 54. 55.

18.

7. The Moth.

Nat. hist. l. 11.

c. 19.

19.

8. The Snail.

20.

What harme the Moth doth.

The flying Moth lyeth betweene the Hackle and the Hiue, and breedeth little Wormes, or crawling Moths, some in the skirts of the Hiue, some within vpon the Scoole, wrapt in the drosse or scouring of the Combes, and some without vpon the Hiue, specially in the cracks of the dawbed Hiues. Plinie speaketh thus of them: *Papilio etiam ignavus luminibus accensis ad volitans pestifer, nec uno modo: nam & ipse ceram depascit, & relinquit excrementa quibus teredines gignuntur.* They offend the Bees also with their mealesse, as the Snail doe with their sliminesse. Wherefore rid your Hiues of these guests. The Moths are easily crusht before or vpon the Hiue: and the Snail, though you kill them not, will not long abide, if there be no harbour of long Grasse, Weeds, or other things about the Hiues. But as for the Moth, if you suffer her, your selfe shall haue more cause than your Bees to bee offended. For albeit in the cold Spring shee breed about the Hiues, hatching hir young by the heat of the Bees; yet when the heat of the aire will suffice for that purpose, shee chooseth rather to lay her blotches in woollen, their naturall nest and nourishment: especially if it bee nappie, that there she may safely hide them. In which place, till they be growne to their bignes, they lie fretting and eating the Cloth: and then after a while they creepe out of their skins flying Moths. The Maides that sunne their clothes to rid the Fleas, let them take heed how they doe it neere the Bee-fold, lest they bring in worse enemies than they carried out. If the Woollen bee oylie or greasie they like it the better: and for that cause good Huswiues Yarne lyeth not long vnwoven.

21.

9. The Emet.

If Emets bee neere your Bees, they will much trouble them, biting them and hanging vpon them: although the Bees,

Bees, if they be lustie, will kill many of them that come to the Hivie. But if it be a poore Stall, they will in time possesse the Hivie, and eat vp the Honie. The best remedie against them is to scald them.

The Spider, as the Moth, doth vse to harbour betweene the Hackle and the Hivie: where commonly she hath a Bee or twaine in store to feed on, an vnfit meise for such a mouth. Sometime she hangerh hir Nets vnder the Stoole; which easily intangle a wearie Bee, when shee commeth laden home, and missing of the lighing place falleth into them: yea, and sometime where the Bees are few, chiefly in the winter, they will bee bold to enter the Hivie, and there weaue their fatall Webbes. *In foribus laxos suspendit aranea cassos. Aranea quoad vel maxime hostiles: cum prebaltore ut intercant, enecant alveos.*

The Toad is by nature so noysome to the Bees, that while he is about the Hivie, though he lie but vnder the Stoole, the Bees will not prosper. He is said also to deuoure them at the Hivie, as the Frog at the Warring-place. *Rana Apes, ubi ad aquam accesserint, rapiunt: quamobrem eas Apiarum per paludes & stagna, unde Apes aquantur, venari solent. Rubeta etiam Apes interimit: subiens enim aditus alveici afflat, & observans rapit evolantes. Nullo hac affici malo ab Apibus potest, sed ab Apiario facile interimitur. Item, Insidiantur aquantibus Rana: qua maxima earum est operatio, cum cum sobolem faciunt. v. Nec hec tantum qua stagna riuosq; obsident, verum & rubeta veniunt ultro, adrepentesq; foribus per eas sufflant: ad hoc provolant, confestimq; abripiuntur.*

**B**ut not any one of these, nor all these together, doe halfe so much harme to the Bees, as the Bees. *Apes api, as homo homini, Lupus.* They make the greatest spoile both of Bees and Honie. For as they of the same Hivie live in inuincible peace one with another; so haue they no entercourse, no friendship or societie with others, but are rather at perpetuall defiance, and deadly feud with them. In sight they are fierce, and in victorie mercilesse: within the space of a day or twaine, yea, of an after-noon sometime, if the Hivie bee open

22.  
10. The Spider.

Virg.  
Nat. Hist. l. 4.  
c. 19.

23.  
11. The Toad.

12. The Frog.  
Hist. an. l. 9.  
c. 40.  
Ibidem.

Nat. Hist. l. 21.  
c. 18.  
7. 6. m. 53.

25.  
13. The Bee the  
Bees greatest e-  
nemie.



open that they may haue easie passage to and fro, they will haue rid him cleane. And therefore all Bees, of all their enemies, doe most dread strange Bees; knowing well in what danger they are to bee robbed by them both of goods and life.

26.  
Robbing or  
fighting of Bees  
in winter and  
summer but lit-  
tle.

27.  
In the spring  
more earnest.

F. 2. 28. 31.

V. 2. 42.

V. 6. 3. 65.

28.  
The most spoile is  
made in Harvest.

29.  
What Stalls are  
most subiect to  
robbing.

30.  
What Bees are  
the Robbers.

This robbing is practised all the yeere. In winter, as oft as the weather is faire and warme, some will bee prowling abroad. And some are so theeuishly disposed, that all the summer long, when abundance of Honie is euery where to bee had for a little labour, they will yet be filching though they die for it. In the Spring they are more earnest; finding now fit time to fetch after that which they leaft behinde at Harvest, v. and to repaire their decayed store, both of Honie and Bees, v. And therefore now haue an eie vnto them; and defend the weaker swarmes from their violent irruptions. v. Those Stalls that haue lost their Queene, or too many of their companie, or are offended with the corruptnesse of their Combes, or doe dislike their standing for coldnesse, moistnesse, mustinesse, bleetnesse, or vnsauorinesse; as taking no pleasure in their liues, doe now easily suffer themselves to be robbed. And if none will come to rob them; then on some faire day they will away together, sometime leauing both Honie and young ones behinde them.

But in *Virgo* is the most dangerous time of all. Then shall all the Stalls in your Garden bee tryed of what mettle they are made. And *Libra* would not bee much better, but that the most spoile is done before. Little and poore swarmes are now subiect to robbing. Likewise those Bees that are offended with the blacknesse and rottennesse of their Combes, caused through age, or wet, or with abundance of noisome stopping; will most of them goe forth in the swarmes, leauing a very few, sometime not past a handfull, in the stocke: which yet in robbing-time will keepe the doore, as though the Hiue were full: but the Robbers finding their weaknesse, will surely spoile them, if they bee not preuented. How to know such weake Bees, and what to doe to them, see further c. 3. n. 46.

The Robbers are thought to bee poore swarmes and  
stocks

stocks, which have not sufficiently provided themselves for winter. Of which opinion was *Plinie* where hee said: *Quod si defecerit alicujus alvei cibum, impetum in proximas faciunt rapina proposito.* But indeed such are fitter to bee robbed, as before is said, than to be robbers. There is no theefe to the rich theefe: who, although he haue enough, and more than enough; yet by hooke or by crooke hee will haue more, though the poore starue for it.

Nat. Hist. L. 11.  
C. 17.

At the beginning of Wheat-haruest, the state of flowers decaying, which is alwaies about *Virgo*, the maine robbing beginneth. Then doe they send forth some of their Scoutest yonkers to spie and giue the onset: which, going about from Hiue to Hiue so farre as their walke extendeth, doe proue all. Where they haue once sped, at their returne they bring more of their companie; vntill in the end that whole Stall be made acquainted with it. Sometime it happeneth, that though there bee an hundred Stalls within a walke; yet the robberie is done altogether by one: sometime by two or three, all the rest being quiet. And this one thing is strange, that whereas no Bees will abide strangers in their Hives with them; yet theeeues will suffer one another, and agree all in stealing, though they be of diuers Hives.

31.  
How they begin the fray.

When the theeeues, hauing first made an entrie, begin to come thicke, and the true Bees perceiue themselves to bee assaulted by many; they suddenly make an out-cric: and issuing out of their holds by troopes, presently prepare themselves to battell. Some keepe the gates: some as Scout-watches fly about: some runne in againe to see what is done there: some beginne to grapple with the Enemy: and that with such a noise and dinne, as if the Drum did sound an all-arme. Besides which base sound, you shall eftsouones, in the heat of the battell, heare a more shrill and sharpe note, as it were of a Flute.

32.  
Theeues of diuers Hives agree together in robbing.

33.  
The description of the Bees battell.

34.  
In the battell is heard a sound like a Drum and a Flute.

Virg.

*Auditur fractos sonitus imitata tubarum.*

Which I am out of doubt is tuned by their generall Commander, encouraging them to fight for their Prince, their liues, and their goods. Then shall you see the enemies be-

35.  
The assault of the enemy.



36.  
The defence of  
the besieged.

for themselves most valiantly: some violently through the thickest thrusting in at the gates, others scaling the walls, and tearing them downe. If they once make a breach, without present succour, you shall quickly haue an end of that fight. On the other side, the defendants will behaue themselves as brauely, not giuing any rest to the enemy: part countering with them that are without, part with them that haue broken in: whom in a while they draw out by the heeles, some dead, and some alieue. Likewise without you may see some slaine forthright with the thrust of the Speare: some so deadly wounded, that they are not able to goe three foot from the place: and some more lightly strooken presently to lose the vse of their wings, and for a while to leape vp and downe, forward and backward, like mad things.

How long they liue after they are hurt, see c. 1. n. 23.

37.  
Neither side  
willing to yeeld.  
Virg.

So loth are these couragious warriors to yeeld on either side, vntill there bee no remedie.

*Ingentes animos angusto in pectore versant,*

*Vsq; adeo obnixi non cedere, dum gravis aut hor,*

*Aut hos versa fuga victor dare terga coegit.*

V. c. 1. n. 40.

In their fight they are so furious sometime, and so thick about the Garden; that, vnlesse you haue on your complete harnesse, v. you may not dare to come nigh them.

38.  
The courage of  
the defendants  
when the enemy  
retireth.

This also I haue noted, that when the robbers are so few, that small resistance will serue; yet being called forth they will not bee idle: for you shall see some of them running vp and downe about the Hue, to seeke and search if any more come: others, like trained Souldiers, practising to fight: here one wrestling with an other in single combat: there two, or three, or foure setting against one; as their vsuall manner is to deale with the theues. If you would know whether this fight bee in jest or earnest, with fellowes or with foes; the manner, and the end thereof will shew you. For if they bee fellowes, their fight is not so fierce, and they will part quietly as friends: whereas if they be foes, though they scape, it shall bee with much adoe. For if the true men cannot kill the theues; yet will they hold them by the legs or by the wings so long as they can, in hope to haue helpe, though they

they be drawne after. Moreover the young Souldiers, which haue scarce beene abroad before, you shall see the elder sort goe round about them, smoothing and trimming them in euery place, as if they did addresse, and hearten them to fight.

During the time of this battaile, as afterward, the Waspses like Vultures prey vpon the dead carcases, carrying them away peece-meale. v. n. 12.

The battaile being ended by repulse of the enemy, those corpses, which the Waspses haue leaft, they honestly burie as farre from the Hiues as they can beare them.

*Tum corpora luce carentum  
Exportant testis, & tristia funera ducunt.*

And then they draw together at the Citie-gates: and there they buzze one to another, as if in their language they did talke of the fight, and commend one an other for their fortitude.

The Robbers, preuailing not that day, will vp the next day so soone as it is light, an houre before the Bees vse to come abroad: and then doe they make a fresh assault. The Bees finding the enemy among them, are presently vp in armes: and so beginnes the second skirmish, which, without the taking of the Citie or the ouerthrow of the assailants, (which seldome hapneth) continueth, vntill very darknesse part them.

When the true Bees, finding themselues ouermatcht with multitude, see there is no remedie, and that no resistance will serue; at length they yeeld, and suffer the Conquerours quietly to spoile their goods. And after a while, when, by being together in the same Hiue, and sucking the same Honie, all smell alike; they will ioyne with their enemies, and help carrie away their owne goods, and so become friends and liue together. At night they lodge with them: but in the day-time they returne with their new fellowes to fetch that is leaft behinde. By this meanes some venterous stalls are suddenly much increased both in Bees and Honie: although when a Swarme not ouer-stored conquereth a poore stall, and so getteth, by the victorie, more eaters than meat; it

39.  
*The Waspses like  
Vultures.*

40.  
*The battaile en-  
ded they bury  
their dead.*

*Virg. Geor.*

41.  
*The second as-  
sault of the ene-  
my.*

42.  
*When the true  
Bees yeeld, they  
goe with the Con-  
querors.*



turneth to their owne overthrow: for when their food faileth they dye all together.

43.  
Remedies.

44.  
To prevent robbing.

45.  
And to stay it, if you finde it in time.

Seeing therefore in so cruell and continuing a fight, oftentimes the enemies are Conquerours, and then all is lost; and if they be vanquishd, yet this victorie is not without losse of men and goods, which the enemy euer now and then shiftech away; I know your desire is to know how to succour the true men, either by preventing this dangerous conflict, or by rescuing them in the same. For the first reade C. 3. m. 45. 46 47. For the other many practises haue beene tried: some cast dust, some drinke among them: the one whereof doth no good, the other harme. For drinke maketh them to smell all alike, so that the true men cannot know the Theeues from their fellowes: and therefore some vse to doe so, when two swarmes are put together, that they may seeme to be of one companie. If these visuall helps be no helps, what help is there then? If you perceiue their fighting in time before any great harme be done, then this must you doe. First stop them vp close, that none can passe either in or out, leauing onely a breathing place. Then shall you haue a double conflict; one within, an other without. The theeues that are within, hauing no way to escape with their preyes, first or last will be slaine all. They that are without, after a little wrestling, seeing nothing to be had but blowes, will not long abide this bootlesse danger. When you perceiue the siege to be raised, and that there is little or no fighting without; (which will be about an houre after) then may you let out your Bees, making the doore halfe an inch high, and scarce halfe an inch wide. Those few that were within will they bring forth to buriall; some then, some on the morrow. In the euening, when the Bees are all in, shut them vp as before. The next day betimes, before the Bees would be abroad, must you looke for some of them againe. When they are come, beat them away with a bough, but kill them not: for so may you doe your neighbour a shrewd turne, and your selfe too.

But let not the Bees out before noone: and then make the doore so narrow, that but one Bee may passe at once. So will

will they keepe the Robbers out, and follow their businesse neuerthelesse. The next day you may let them out rather: and if the doore be so narrow that it hinder their passage, you may make it wider. If this do not suffice, but still the strange Bees will strue to get in; assure your selfe that stall will yeeld. And therefore if you bee loth to take it now, because of the Schadons that may corrupt the Honie; *v.* then must you looke vnto him carefully, lest by little and little it come to little or nothing.

*V. c. 10. p. 1. n. 3*

But if the Bees haue yeelded before you are aware of it, so that the theeuers rob quietly without resistance; or haue broken the Honie-cels; (which you may perceiue by the crumblers of Wax vpon the stoole) then, hawing shut the Hiue close as soone as you can, the next euening or morning take that is least: otherwise in the end you shall lose all. For the Bees there about smelling the Honie when the Combes are broken, will haue it or die for it.

46.  
*When it is too late, and what is then to be done*

This fierce and cruell robbing being alwaies in Haruest, when people are busie in the fields; many Hiues are least Honie-lesse, and they neuer the wiser. Wherefore it is good to leaue some body at home, as well to watch these, as the two legged Robbers.

Neither is this robbing hurtfull onely to those that are robbed, but to the Robbers also. For many of them are daily cut off in the assault: (you may see them lye sprawling at euerie Hiue-doores) whereby their whole stall sometime is so weakned; that, while they seeke to prey vpon others, they become a prey themselues.

47.  
*Robbing hurtfull also to the Theeuers.*

After a moist Spring, when Swarmes are most plentiful, *v.* is robbing most rife: otherwise there is lesse danger.

48.  
*In what yeeres robbing is most rife.*

*V. c. 5. n. 5.*

Besides those Bees that are thus spoiled in robbing, many also are killed by other stalls when they come to them for succour. For in the Spring those Swarmes that were lateward, or haue beene halfe-robbed; when they haue spent all their store, the next warme day after, away they flye: some to a tree where they hang till they be dead: some aduenture into other Hiues: where if they haue large entrance, that they may throng in suddainely; sometime they scape with

49.  
*Bees kill poore swarmes that wander in the Spring.*



the death of some few, and being mingled together continue with them as one stall: but for the most part they die euery each one. v. c. 1. n. 22.

50  
To prevent the  
death of poore  
swarmes.

V. c. 10. p. 1. n.  
12.

V. c. 10. p. 1. n.  
15.

51:  
Many killed in  
swarming.

52.  
14. The weather.

53.  
In Summer heat  
hurte the Bees.

54.  
In Winter the  
Sun-shine in  
frost and snow.

55.  
The remedie.

56.  
Also the Eastern  
winds and great  
frosts.

V. c. 3. n. 61.

To prevent this losse, (1) when you perceiue them to wax light and weake; driue them into a stall that hath provision enough, v. (2) If it be your hap to see them entering a stall that is well stored, lift vp the Hiue and let them in together, and so perhaps they may scape: and (3) if you finde any hanging abroad, you may put them into what stall you list; by rearing the stall before a handfull from the stoole, and laying the Bees vpon the Table, v. close to the doore.

Lastly, the Bees doe much destroy one another in swarming-time. v. c. 5. n. 64, 65, 66, 68, 75, 76, 77, 80, & 81.

Next vnto Bees, the greatest Enemy that the Bees haue is vnkinde Weather: whereby at all times of the yeare both they and their fruits are much empaired.

In Summer extreme heat melteth the Combes (specially of Swarmes) and so sheddeth the Honie; if the Hiues be not shaded, and well hackled. It also causeth the Bees to lye out, and so hindereth their swarming. v. c. 5. n. 20.

At Winter, the Sunne shining in frostie or snowie weather, is dangerous to the Bees. For the shine tilleth them abroad, and the Frost chilleth them: many as they flye, that they cannot returne: and many that returne, while they rest on the ground before the Hiue. But the Snow amazeth them, and dazeling their eyes causeth them presently to fall, and with his vehement cold to rise no more: and most of all then, when, to shun the wind, they light in the shade. And therefore if, the Snow lying, the mildnesse of the weather draw them abroad; it is good to strew the Snow with straw, not onely in your Garden, but also without the fences, specially in the Lee-sides, if conueniently you may: and so shall you saue a number; which else you might see lying about, like slaine men in a foughren field.

Also the freezing Easterne winds, and all great Frosts kill many in the Hiues that be open, or vncouered: and therefore at such times it is good to shut them vp close, v. and to see



## Of the Bees Enemies

see them well hackled, v. c. 3. n. 14.

And if the cold continuing keepe them long in, it maketh them so sicke, heavy, and chilly; that many dye as soone as they come abroad into the aire, vnlesse it be very pleasant.

v. c. 3. n. 62.

Also the raine doth oft-times soake into the Hiuies, and so corrupteth the Combes, and killeth the Bees: specially where the company is small, not hauing heat enough to drie them againe. Wherefore prouide that alwaies your hackles be good. And for remedie (if any such chance happen) pull off the hackles in warme daies, that the Sonne may dry the Hiuies againe.

But the greatest losse is in the Spring. For the Bees, specially the young fric (being laded and wearie with their labour) some at their worke, some in the way home, some at the Hiue-doore are bearen downe; not onely through sudden stormes, but also through cold rough winds: and then, vnlesse the Sunne shine or the wind lye, they neuer come home againe: insomuch that sometime you may see the Lanes v: strewed with them.

And therefore, when being a field they see a stormie or rainie Cloud arising, presently they hie them home for life: tumbling to the Hiue as thicke as Haile, thronging, and throwing downe one another before the doore for haste. Where, if the cold raine catch them before they can recouer the Hiue, they are in no better case than those that the storme beat downe by the way: although, when they are fresh and light, they will flye abroad in the midst of a warme shower, not caring for it.

They which are thus taken abroad, must take their chance: But if you defend your Bee-garden as you ought, v. you shall prevent the fall of many at home. And those that you finde chilled with cold (though they be quite dead, without sense, motion, and breath, yea and haue lien so all the day) you may, if you be disposed, reuiue with the warmth of your hand; so that it will seeme a miracle vnto you. For presently (their spirit returning) you shall see them begin to pant and breath againe: and anon they will flye away as lustie as the best.

C. 7.

57.

And the cold continued maketh them sicke.

58.

The raine rot-  
teth the Hiuies.

59.

The remedie.

60.

The greatest losse by weather is in the Spring: for then infinite multitudes are beaten downe, laden and wearie, with stormes, and wind.

V. c. 1. n. 49.

61.

As the rising of a Cloud they post home.

62.

Yes will they goe a field in the midst of a warme shower.

V. c. 2. n. 1. 3.

4. & 5.

63.

How to restore Bees to life.



64.  
The wind cau-  
seth many to be  
drowned.

65.  
The remedie.  
Nat. hist. l. 11.  
c. 19.

66.  
The last and  
worst Enemy of  
all.

N. c. 1. n. 59.  
c. 2. n. 60.

best. But if you spie any store of such dead or halfe-dead Bees, then your way is to put them in a Glasse, and cou-  
ring it, to turne it round against the fire, till you see them  
ready to flye.

Also where Palme-withies, or other trees whereon they  
gather, do hang ouer the water; the rough winds throw  
downe and drowne a number of them, while they bee at  
worke. Many also, where there are no such trees, when  
they come but to drinke.

For remedie of the first, cut downe the trees: and for the  
other, see c. 6. n. 56.

*Tot hostibus, tot casibus, tam munificum  
animal expositum est.*

¶ There remaineth yet another Enemy worse than all these.  
For these all doe wrong the Bees but by little and little,  
some in their goods, some in their persons: and there is re-  
medie shewed, if industrie be not wanting, against them all.  
But this, when he commeth, playeth sweep-stake with them,  
carrying away both Honie, and Wax, and Bees, and Hiee,  
and all at once: and there is no sufficient remedie found,  
either in the Bee-master, or in the Bees themselves against  
him: neither shall I, with all my skill, be euer able to de-  
uise any; vnlesse the wisest of the Land, when they meet to-  
gether, will ioyne with me in the inuention. For first the  
Bees are least destitute of their Keepers helpe, seeing at the  
times of greatest danger, he cannot alwaies be *sub Dio* with  
them, nor they conueniently *sub Lare* with him: although  
some haue, for their safetie, put this in practise, housing them  
and shutting them vp close all the Winter: but not without  
much inconuenience. For by this meanes they are debarred  
of their necessarie recreation v: in a warme houre, when it  
happeneth: and if by chance they breake forth, they lose  
their way in againe, and their liues withall. And as they  
want herein their Keepers helpe, so haue they no meanes to  
saue themselves, no not so much as the silly sheepe, which  
happily may runne away. For their resistance, which against  
some Enemies doth often preuaile, against the violence of  
this *slie Tenebrio* auaileth nothing at all: who stealing vpon  
them

them while they be at rest, & suddainly surprizing them, carrieth the poore Captives (alasse) they were not whither. Although I have read a Storie of a Scall, that being stolne did sharply punish the Malefactor, making him to submit himselfe vnto their Master, and to aske him forgiuenesse. Indeed I will not be bound for the truth of it, for it is no childe of mine: but if any man desire to take it as it is, he shall haue it as good cheape as I. *Cum noctu latro apes S. Medardi subripuisset, apes ipsae in sancti viri ultionem, relictis vasis suis, in malefactorem illum circumquaq; diffugientem acerrima carentis instimulatione persecute sunt, quousq; ad Sanctum, vellet nolle, regrederetur, & ejus provolutus vestigys suppliciter pro commissi crimine veniam precaretur. Cui mox ut Sanctus manum extendit benedictionis, apes, tanquam obedientes, ab ejus infectione cessaverunt, & antiquo Domini sui dominio euidenter sese reddiderunt.* Laur. Surius in vita S. Medardi. Tom. 3. When a Theefe by night had stollen S. Medards Bees, the Bees in their Masters quarrell, leauing their Hiue, set vpon the Malefactor, and eagerly pursuing him which way soeuer he ranne, would not cease stinging of him, vntill they had made him, whether he would or no, to go backe againe to their Masters house, and there falling prostrate at his feet, submissly to crie him mercie for the crime committed. Which being done, so soone as the Saint extended vnto him the hand of benediction; the Bees, like obedient Seruants, did forthwith stay from persecuting him, and euidently yeelded themselves to the ancient possession and custodie of their Master.

It were to be wished that *Pares culpa* might be *Pares pena*, that all like offenders might haue like punishment. But such our Bees are not of S. Medards kinde, thus to rescue themselves from this mischieuous Enemy; it is meet their merit procure them a protection: and as they provide for the health and safetie of men, so men should provide for the safetie and secure being of them. That such as delight in things for their Country so profitable, might not by idle and theuish Vanities, vnto profitable members of the Common-wealth, be discouraged in their honest courses. Wherefore

P. c. i. m. i.  
& c. 10. p. 3. m. i.  
& 2.



fore I humbly and heartily entreat all those, whether they be high or low, which shall reape either profit or pleasure by these my paines, that they would endeavour, as much as in them lyeth, by themselves and by their friends, that against this odious rapine it may be enacted, as a Law of the *Medes* and *Persians* which altereth not; that they which feloniously breake open these true labourers houses, shall, like other House-breakers, bee deemed and iudged as guiltie of Burglairie, and so haue no benefit or fauour by the *Muses*, that thus violate the *Muses* sacred Fauorites. And heere, now my hand is in (though it may seeme a hard digression) let me begge the like boone for those other necessarie creatures, which, for their like certaine and generall profit, the Prouerbe hath ioyned with them in speciall commendation to the world.

*Who so keepe well Sheepe and Bees,  
Sleepe or wake, their thrift comes on.*

They serue for mans vse both without and within, not only to feed the belly, but also to cloath the back: for which necessarie vses, they deserue especially to be beloued and defended of all. And yet I thinke that in any thing, nay in all things else, there is not so much wrong and spoile done to the Countrey, as in them alone: Sheepe-stealing, through foolish pittie, is now growne so common and so continuall. Whereby, besides the infinite losses which true Subjects daily suffer in that kinde, the Commonwealth sustaineth an other great damage in Corne; the Husbandmen oft-times fearing and forbearing to sold their Land, lest their losse should be greater than their gaine. Surely, in my opinion, the very Boot-halers, or High-way Robbers are more worthy fauour than such. For they are men of more generous spirits, both apt for seruice themselves, and to breed bold Souldiers for their Prince and Countrey, who, by good admonition, better imployments, or conscience of the sinne, are oft-times reclaimed: Whereas these Night-Rauens, for the most part, are base cowardly Knaues, neither fit for seruice, nor labour; a meere burthen to the Commonwealth:

## Of the Feeding of Bees.

C. 1.

wealth: and as incorrigible as sheep-biting Curses, which being once flesh't, doe seldome desist; vntill the bones or somewhat else doe happily choake them.



### CHAP. VIII.

## Of the Feeding of Bees.



Three moneths of the twelue are rich and plentiful (in which the Bees gather abundantly, and store themselves for all the yeere) *Gemini*, *Cancer*, *Leo*; but *Cancer* is better than both the other. In *Virgo* and *Libra* they liue of their daily labour from hand to mouth: little increasing or diminishing their store; vnlesse they fall into the hands of Robbers, and then, without reskue, they lose all. But in the other seuen, either wholly or partly they feed vpon that store, which the three rich moneths did afford them. For *Scorpio* hath but the poore gleanings of decaying plants: the three still moneths nothing at all. *Pisces* beginneth to put forth fresh plants, which in *Aries* and *Taurus* are well increased: but this breeding time the mouths are multiplied more than the meat, which \* vnkinde weather oftentimes suffereth them not to fetch in. So that all this while, they, more or lesse, spend vpon the stocke: yea the weaker stalls somewhat longer, being not so well able to indure the sharpe aire: and therefore, for want of some store to feed on betweene whiles at home, I haue knowne some die after Mid-*Gemini*.

For which seuen spending moneths, some swarmes are sufficiently provided: which you may reckon as Iewels, the verie *Spes gregis*; whose increase the next yeere is certaine, if they be not ouer-hiued. Some are not provided for halfe the time: and these, as desperately poore, are not worth the feeding.

1.  
In seuen moneths  
the Bees spend of  
the stocke.

\* Rainie, cold,  
and winde.

2.  
Three sorts of  
swarmes diuersly  
provided.



feeding. Others are provided for six, or five, or four moneths : which, by the helpe of feeding, may liue and doe well.

<sup>3.</sup>  
The first sort.

*V. c. 5. n. 11.*

Of the first sort are timely prime swarmes vnbroken : also faire Castlings not ouer hiued, before *Cancer* ; yea and in kinde or backward Summers before *Mid-Cancer* : when the black-berry-blossomes are not yet come, *v.* nor the hony-deawes gone : For such haue sufficient both company and time, to make sufficient prouision.

<sup>4.</sup>  
The second.

*V. c. 5. n. 68.*

Of the second sort are the ouer-little and late swarmes, whose paucitie and pouertie makes them vnlustie to trauell for more, and vnable to keepe what is gotten or giuen them. Such are sure to bee put before winter be past, by cold and hunger, out of hunger and cold. And therefore if you haue omitted to saue such by *Vnion* ; *v.* yet omit not to saue that little which they haue, and your vaine labour and cost in feeding them. *v. c. 10. p. 1. n. 3. in III.*

<sup>5.</sup>  
The third onely  
are to be fed.

Of the third sort are the midling and indifferent swarmes, which by their earnest labour haue gotten well, and gathered good store of wealth together : but yet, for some want of number or time, the summer leaueth them in some want of prouision.

<sup>6.</sup>  
Stockes out of  
prooffe neuer to  
be fed.

As for Stockes that haue stood two yeeres, and yet haue not sufficient stocke for these seuen moneths ; (whether they be such as haue not gotten it, or hauing gotten it haue lost it againe) they are out of prooffe : and therefore fit to be taken, not fed. *v. c. 10. p. 1. n. 3. in III.*

<sup>7.</sup>  
Trie your  
swarmes in  
Virgo.

*V. c. 10. p. 1. n. 2.*

But because vnkinde summers may make good swarmes but poore, as contrarily a plentiful summer may much mend the worst ; after *Mid-Virgo*, when Bees are to be taken, *v.* it behoueth you to trie all your swarmes, by knocking and poising them : for the noise will tell you the greatnesse of the company, and the weight, their wealth. They that are vsed to poise them by hand, will resolue you readily in this point by ayme : which till you know to doe, the Scales may direct you. For hauing taken the iust weight of the Hiue and all together, if, the fore-knowne weight of the leere splended Hiue being deducted, there remaine not fifteene pound in all, to

<sup>8.</sup>  
What quantitie  
of Hony is re-  
quisite.

wit,

## Of the Feeding of Bees.

C. 8.

wit, for five pound v. in Bees, the double weight in honie and wax; that swarme is desperately poore, v. and fitter to be taken than fed \*. If the swarme with his store doe weigh betweene fifteene and twentie, due feeding v. may saue him. If betweene twentie and five and twentie, hee is able to shift for himselfe, and liue without helpe. If betweene five and twentie and thirtie, esteeme him as right good, plentifully provided euen for a hard winter, and fittred to be forward the next spring †. And aboue that the greater the store is, the better increase it promiseth. Vnlesse, in some extraordinarie yeere, the Hiue be cloyed with too much: v. for too much, as well to Bees as men, doth oftentimes more harme than good.

V. † inc. 5. n. 45.  
V. n. 2.

V. n. 14, &c.

V. c. 10. p. 1. n.  
3, in VII. &  
VIII.

\* Yet they that haue but a small Bee-fold, and are content to be often troubled (specially at the second feeding-time) may try those that lacke a pound or two of this weight.

† And yet such though neuer so good, will perish neuertheless, if they chance to lose their Queene: v. which sometime happeneth to those that are much troubled in the huiing. v. c. 5. n. 52.

V. c. 1. n. 6.

Moreover, because a long winter and a rough spring following, with some other accidents, may waste them that were good, as, on the other side, a short winter and a milde spring may helpe those that were scantily provided; it shall not be amisse to try againe in *Pisces* or *Aries*, those that you suspect; and to feed them if you see cause. v. n. 15. & 16.

9.  
Try againe in  
Pisces or Aries.

**T**HE naturall food of Bees is Honie: for want, or for sparing whereof, many other things haue beene deuised. *Aristotle* mentioneth Figs, and all such sweet things. *Apiarij sicut ac reliqua id genus dulcia in cibum apponunt.* And *Plinie*, speaking more particularly, commenderh Rayfings, and Figs, and teased Wooll, wet in sweet Wine made of Rayfings, or new Wine boiled, or Hony-water. *Si cibus deeffer censeatur apibus, uvas passas siccasve, ficosq; tutas ad fores earum posuisse conueniet, item lanas tractas madentes passo aut defruto, aut aqua mulsas.* And some of our Country-men haue practised to giue them Bay-salt, Bean-flower, Ground-mault, roasted Wardens, and Apples, and sweet Wort. All

10.  
The Bees food.

Hist. l. 9. c. 40.

Nat. hist. li. 21.  
c. 14.



which things, though they will spend, yet cannot they be preferred by them without Honie.

Touching the counsell of *Plinie*, this is to be noted, that if you place their food *ad fores* before the doore, it will draw strange Bees vnto them: whereby the liues of the one, and the goods of the other will be endangered: if you place it abroad from your Hiue, then will it be common: and if within vpon the stoole, which is best, then must you remoue it in time, or keepe it close; & otherwise it will be no better for them, than if it were set *ad fores*. And as for the deuice of tealed Wooll, it is a fitter meanes to catch Bees, than to feed them. For if the liquor be about the Wooll, it will lime the wings of many; if not, many will be intangled in the small haire, as Birds in a grin. Cover it therefore with a linnen cloth, so that the Bees may not creep betweene.

V. n. 11.

II.  
Private feeding.

The manner of feeding Bees in their Hiues is diuers. Some giue them Honie in a spoone: but that way many of them be-smear their wings: and if their fellowes lick them not cleane presently, before the cold chill them, they die. Others, to auoid this inconuenience, giue it them in a warme Toste: but this way wasteth the hony, & doth not altogether auoid the former inconuenience. Others haue other deuices. But indeed the only good way to feed Bees is with a combe, after this manner. First, take a fresh Combe of Liue-honie out of a Hiue, & lay it vpon some Prop or stay, that the Bees may worke, as well vnder as vpon. This Prop may be a wooden grate seuen or eight inches square, made of two sides halfe an inch deepe, and three ribs fastened into them with Dove-tails, or with small nailes. For a need two seuerall square stickes may serue: but then you cannot so quickly either set it in, or take it out.

Then in a faire calme euening (when the heat of the day, and the Bees worke is past) place this vpon the stoole: so that the Feeding-combe be reared as neere the Hiue-combes as may be, not touching them, lest the Bees fasten this and them together. Then see that the Hiue, set downe in his place, be close euerie where: and at the doore but room enough for a Bee or two to passe. Then will these Bees to worke afresh, not ceasing day nor night vntill they haue rid the Combe cleane: which within eight and fortie houres will be effected. If they need any more, the next euening doe likewise.

likewise. But alwaies when it waxeth darke, and the Bees are all in, barre vp the doore: and let them not out till the next euening, when other Bees are quiet. Or if you doe it in the morning, be sure also to take out the Combe, whether he be rid or no. And still leaue the Hiue close, with a narrow passage.

If your poore Bees should not be thus defended from strangers, the feeding of them would proue a staruing of them. For the Borderers smelling the bootie will be sure to haue part of it, if they can come at it: and when that is done, they will set vpon the other, and so spoile all: as often it falleth out through this carelesnesse. Which causeth some to condemne all feeding of Bees, as painfull and fruitlesse: saying, If you feed them not, they can but die: and so will they doe when you haue bestowed your labour and cost. But this is disproued by experience: for those, which being fit to be fed, are thus fed, do seldome miscarrie. That summer they provide sufficiently for winter, and the next they are as likely to swarme and be fat as an other.

12.  
Carelesse feeding  
is staruing.

V. m. 5.

You may also feed your poore swarmes together, (if you haue no neighbour-Bees to beguile them) by setting any refuse-honie or leauings abroad in your Garden, hauing first barred vp those that need it not. This feeding-Hony, as that which is stolne, when they haue first taken their refection, they conuey into their void Cells: which, because they cannot now shut them vp, as before *Virgo*, for want of wax; v. they doe but halfe-fill. And therefore they first spend of this late gotten honie, reseruing that, which was more safely laid vp, vnto the last.

13.  
Publike feeding.

V. c. 6. n. 15.

It is good to feed Bees before they need: (that they may haue their store, which they haue shut vp in their Cells, vntill the spring) namely, in the later part of *Virgo*, when the Combes are taken, v. or in *Libra*. For those that haue spent their owne store, and haue little or nothing left in the end of Winter, are so discouraged and so feeble with fasting; that knowing their thin bodies can beare out no cold, they wil not come abroad, but when they are fed: vnlesse the weather be exceeding warme and calme: and the more they keepe in, the weaker

14.  
The first time of  
feeding.

V. c. 10. p. 1. n. 2.



weaker still they are, and lesse apt to breed. But those which  
rathe feeding hath caused them to spare their store till the  
Spring, will be as cheerefull as the best: in any reasonable  
weather they will abroad, and fetch in that fruitfull *Andro-*  
*sis*, which causeth them presently to increase and multiply.

v. c. 4. n. 12.

At this first time therefore first finish the publike feeding:  
and then begin the private, specially of those that are under  
eightene pound: to which if you giue now the better part  
of their \* due allowance, you may supply the defects of them,  
as also of the rest, at the second feeding-time, when their  
need will better appeare.

\* Their due allowance, first and last to be given them, is so much  
least, as the swarme with his store lacketh of twentie pound.

15.  
The second time  
of feeding.

In *Pisces* or *Aries*, as soone as the weather is warme (not  
before, lest the cold chill them in their worke) if you see  
they will lacke (which you may perceiue by their lightnesse  
& vnwillingnesse to come abroad) supply their want againe,  
and againe, if need be. But in this second feeding, for lacke  
of a Hony-combe, take a drie Combe, reserued for the pur-  
pose, and poure thereon so much Honie as it may receiue. If  
you thinke it be not liquid enough; then either warme it  
first ouer the fire, or else spread it all ouer the Combe with  
your finger, that it may sinke into the Cells: (for which pur-  
pose Liue-hony is best) then vse this honied combe as the  
Hony-combe. v. n. 11.

16.  
The third time of  
feeding.

If either these fed Bees, or any other, chance afterward to  
lacke (namely in *Taurus*, or somewhat before or after) then  
feed them daily vntill mid-*Gemini*, giuing them, euerie eu-  
ning or morning betimes, a spoonefull of Honie; and taking  
away the Combe againe before other Bees be at worke. But  
this is to be done without intermission: for the Bees will  
duly looke for it, and languish, if once or twice they lacke it.

If you vse to knocke the Hiue, when you put in the Honie; they will  
come downe together, like sheepe to a call, when they are to be foddered.

By this meanes I haue saued swarmes that forlooke the  
Hiues for hunger, hiuing them againe in their owne Hiues  
which proued good the same yetre.



CHAP. IX.

Of the remouing of Bees.



**I**N remouing of Bees be carefull to auoid these five euills: 1. hindering of their swarming: 2. and of their Hony-gathering: 3. breaking of their Combes: 4. robbing: 5. and losse of Bees.

Remoue alwaies in a faire day, and, as neere as you can guesse, in settled weather. For when they are moued to another place, if it be within their circuit or walke; they will flie to their old standing as soone as they are let goe, and hanker about it three or foure daies, and sometime longer: where if the cold wet catch them, many lose their liues. And if you remoue them out of their knowledge, then, as amazed in an vncouth place, they flie about for a while viewing the countrie, and searching for their old home: when they are wearie, they rest wheresoeuer: and if foule weather come vpon them, they are in like danger.

For the time of the yeere, remoue not in the three still moneths, or in a fortnight afore or after, for losing the Bees. For if foule weather fall not, the very still cold will kill many, while they are straying abroad: and of those that returne, being not yet acquainted with the Hiue doore, some will fall short, some vpon the Hiue: where, while they rest panting, the cold chilleth them.

*Taurus*, *Gemini*, and especially *Cancer*, are naught, for hindering the swarming, as well as their hony-gathering: and *Cancer* for danger also of breaking their soft Combes.

In *Leo* though the swarming time be past, and robbing time not yet come; yet there remaineth some hony-gathering,

1.  
Five things to be auoided in remouing Bees.

2.  
Remoue alwaies in faire weather.

3.  
Not in Winter.

4.  
Not in Summer.



ring, and the Combes being then most weightie and most weake, the danger of breaking them is greatest.

V. 6. 7. 7. 31.

To remoue in *Virgo* (when the Bees doe euer vse to be trying of masteries) *v.* is dangerous for robbing. For the *Indigena* or old inhabitants of the Garden (as they goe about prying for booties) finding new neighbours come among them, will be sure to visit them: and while the chiefe of their strength is stragling abroad, seeking for their old dwelling; they will bring the rest such cheere to their housewarming, as shall haply make the house too hot for them. And then they must be faine to goe along with them, and helpe to carrie their owne goods after them. *v. c. 7. n. 42.*

5.  
The Autumne  
and Spring are  
fit times for re-  
mouing.

The fittest time is either in *Libra*, and the fore-part of *Scorpio*, that they may thoroughly know their new standing before the weather be too cold; or in *Aries*, and the later part of *Pisces*, that they may be acquainted with it before much gathering of Honie.

Neuerthelesse, if you haue Bees in other mens keeping, whose care and skill you mistrust; you were better to remoue them vnseasonably with some losse, than to hazard all by their ignorance and negligence.

6.  
Libra, the best  
moneth in all the  
yeere.

But if you may choose, remoue in *Libra* onely: which is simply the best.

7.  
When to remoue  
a swarme.

And for the remouing of a Swarme into an other Garden, (whether it be neere or far off) the only time is the euening or night next after the huiing: that he may be at his new standing, readie to worke, in the morning; and so lose no time, nor breake his first Combe in the carriage.

8.  
The time of the  
day, and manner  
of remouing.

**I**N the euening, when you mean to remoue, an houre before sun-set prop vp the Hiue from the Stoole, with three Bolsters two or three inches thicke, that the Bees may ascend from the stoole. About halfe an houre after; hauing prepared an other stoole of the same height, and couered it with your Mantle, so, that the middle of the mantle be ouer the middle of the stoole; moue the stall with his stoole, if you may, a little aside, and set this couered stoole in his place: or if it cannot well be moued, then let the couered stoole close

to the old stoole, either beside it, or before it. This done, lift vp the stall from his old stoole and set it vpon the new: and then wiping the Bees from the old stoole (if any remaine) with your Brush; either take the stoole away, or couer it with a cloth. And then if your new stoole be onely a planke without legs, borne vp by some other meanes; it is good to set it vpon the old. Within a while when the Bees are all in, knit the mantle at the foure corners ouer the top of the Hiue, so as the knots may not slip: and presently binde it to the Hiue about the middle slackly with a small line, and wrest it fast with a little sticke. And so is the stall readie to be remoued.

They vse commonly to make no more adoe, but after sun-set when the Bees are at rest, to lift vp the stall, and set it vpon a mantle spread on the ground, and so to binde it vp, leauing the Bees vpon the stoole (which in a good stall are not a few) behinde them. Which way, for such stalls as haue all their Bees vp in the Hiue, may serue well enough.

The best way to carrie your \* Stall is vpon a Cowl-staffe betweene two.

\* If you haue many to remooue; two lustie fellowes may beare two or three of them at once: but let them be all fast bound together.

If it be light, one may carrie it in his hand. But, howsoeuer, be sure it hang perpendicularly for feare of breaking the Combes; specially if you chance to remoue before *Libra*, when the wax is soft, and the lower parts of the Combes are heauie with Schadons, as well as the vpper with Honie.

When you haue brought the Stall home, you may let it stand bound as it is, all night in the house. The morrow, when the weather serueth, set him on his seat: but if it be foule all the next day, keepe him still bound vntill it be faire. And then hauing loosed the line, and taken away the Mantle, cloome him vp presently: leauing, for three or foure faire daies, a verie narrow entrance, for feare of robbing. For their new neighbours, euen now also (though not so eagerly as in *Virgo*) will proue them: and they will not so stoutly resist, vntill they be acquainted in the place.

9.  
The vsual man-  
ner of remouing.

10.  
Which is fit for  
poore stalls.

11.  
How a good stall  
is to be carried.

12.  
How a bad.

13.  
What to do when  
they are brought  
home.

14.  
And what when  
they are seated.





CHAP. X.

*Of the fruit and profit of Bees.*

Wherein is shewed first the *Vindemiation* or taking of Combes: secondly, the trying of the *Wax* and *Honie*, with the making of *Meth* or *Hydromel*: and thirdly, the singular vertues of them, for the vse and comfort of man.

*The first part of this Chapter sheweth the taking of the Combes.*

1.  
*The first kind of Vindemiation.*

2.  
*The best time for killing Bees.*

1.  
*Coll. 9. c. 15.*

2.  
*What Stalls are to be taken.*

3.  
*V. 4. n. 31. & 32.*



He most vsuall, and generally most vsefull manner of taking the Combes, is by killing the Bees. For which the naturall and seasonable time is the latter part of *Virgo*, from the end of the *Dog-daies* vnto *Libra*: because till then the Combes are full of *Schadons*, which deceiue the *Honi-men*, making the Hiue heauier and the *Honie* worse: (for the young Bees as well as the *Coom* corrupt the same, *Pulli & rubra sordes sunt mali saporis, & succo suo mella corrumpunt*) and after that time, the weather waxeth colder, not so fit for the running and working of the *Honie*: and the *Honie* is likely to decreafe, either by their owne spending or by the spoiling of Robbers. Except in the heath-countries, where their gathering lasteth longer: for there they defer their taking vntill *Mid-Libra*.

At this time therefore consider with your selfe what Stalls you will kill. Swarmes that may liue, yeerlings and two yeerlings that are in prooffe, keepe for store. Likewise those that rid their *Drones* betimes, and specially those that draw out their young *Cephens*.v. Those of three or foure yeeres, which, by reason of their not swarming this last summer, are  
ful

full of Bees, lightly are fat, and therefore worth the taking: but they are also good for store, vnlesse the frequent Honi-dewes haue made them ouer fat. But those of that age which haue cast twice (except they were very forward and had beat away their Drones betimes) are not likely to \* continue: and therefore are to be taken.

\* If you would haue any such to stand an other yeere, and not to bee weakened by his late casting; put it backe into the stocke againe. v. c. 3. n. 11.

Likewise all poore swarmes vnworthy to be fed, v. and all light stocks whose stocks are decayed: v. For they will surely die. Neither is it safe to trust any after they haue stood five yeeres: vnlesse it be some speciall kinde of Bees, which cast often, and yet beating away their Drones betimes, doe still keepe themselves in heart. For such I haue kept nine or ten yeeres: and I haue heard of some of a greater age. Moreover, all stalls of three yeeres old and vppward, that haue mist swarming two yeeres together: and especially those, that hauing lye forth the summer before, did not cast this last summer: for such doe seldom after prosper. It is therefore better to take them now while they are good, than in a vaine hope of increase, to keepe them till they perish. Likewise if you haue any that are very fat and full of Honie, (as some yeeres some will be, euen downe to the Scoole) those are ripe and ready to yeeld their fruir. One such is worth three or foure. Take them therefore in their season: For wanting roome to breed in (their Cells being full of Honie) they will decay by little and little, and consume to nothing. And therefore, as in a wet hungry yeere you must keepe the best, so in a drie yeere, rich and plentiful in Honie-dewes, the worst are like to proue best for store.

But generally take the best, and the worst. *In medio virtus.*

And euer suspect those that rid not their Drones in time, v. *V. c. 4. n. 30.* X.

Also those which the Robbers doe eagerly assault, v. *V. c. 3. n. 50.* XI.  
and if their Combes bee once broken, v. delay not their taking. *V. c. 7. n. 46.*

Having made choice of your Stall to be taken, some two or three houres before \* Sun-set dig a hole in the ground, as neere the Scoole as may bee, about eight or nine inches deepe,

II.

V. c. 3. n. 4. III.

V. c. 8. n. 6. IV.

V.

VI.

VII.

VIII.

IX.

V. c. 4. n. 30. X.

V. c. 3. n. 50. XI.

V. c. 7. n. 46.

4.  
*The manner of  
killing Bees.*



deepe, and almost as wide as the Hiue-skirts: laying the small earth round about the brims. Then hauing a little sticke fix in one end, & shript at the other, take a † Brimstone-match 5. or 6. inches long, and about the bignesse of your little finger, and making it fast in the slit, sticke the sticke in the middle or side of the hoale; so that the top of the Match may stand even with the brim of the pit: and then set another by him drest after the same manner, if that bee not sufficient. When you haue fired these Matches at the vpper ends, set ouer the Hiue: and presently shut it so close at the Skirts, that none of the smoake may come forth. So shall you haue the Bees dead and downe in lesse than a quarter of an houre.

\* That you may haue the euening and morning to finish your worke; while the store-Bees be at rest: which otherwise will trouble you in handling the Honie, if by any meanes they may come at you. But if the weather be cold enough to keepe them in, or the house bee close enough to keepe them out; you may take what time of the day you please.

† Matches are made of linnen rags and Brimstone, after the manner that maids make Sluts. First, melt pounded Brimstone: then take a linnen rag a foot long, and holding both the ends in one hand, dip the rest in the melted Brimstone, turning it vp and downe with a sticke: then taking one of the ends in the other hand, winde it a litle; for hard winding makes it burne the worse. This cut in the middle maketh twaine.

5.  
Sundry meanes  
to kill Bees.

Next vnto Brimstone is the smoake of Bunt or great Puffits, Tuchwood, or Mushrooms, vsed in like manner: but they are neither so quicke, nor so sweet. And for a need, some smother them with danke Straw, or Hay: but then the Honie will smell of the smoake. And therefore some drowne them in a Tub of water: but that hurteth the Honie, and doth the Hiue no good: and, besides that, many of the Bees being not quite dead, will sting them that handle the Honie.

6.  
The Bees being  
dead, howe the  
Hiue.

The Bees being dead, carrie the Hiue into the house, &c. See Part 2. If any Bees escape, they will die that night: but if you feare they will doe any harme, you may kill them presently vpon the Stool.

7.  
The second kinde  
of Vndermination.

ANother way to take the Combes is by Driving the Bees. The manner of it is this. At Mid-summer, or within two or three daies after, in a faire morning an houre before Sun-  
rising,

rising, lift the Stall from the Stoole, and set it vpright and fast on the ground in a Brake v. with the bottome vpward: and quickly couer it with an empiric Hiue, hauing first laid two spleers vpon the full Hiues bottome, that the empiric Hiue may stand the faster. Then wrapping a Mantle v. round about the Chincke or meeting of both the Hiues, and binding it fast with a small cord aboue and beneath, that a Bee may not get forth, clap the full Hiue or *Remouer* round about a good many times, pawling now and then a little betweene, that the Bees may ascend into the void Hiue. And when you thinke that most of them are driuen vp (which will bee about halfe an houre after) set the vpper Hiue or *Receiuer* vpon the old stoole: B V T bee sure &c. as it followeth note 15.

Provided alwaies, before you goe about this businesse, that all the Stalls in your Garden be first shut vp, lest they trouble you and your poore Bees.

This kinde of taking is much applauded at the first, because men thinke thereby to saue both Bees and Honie: but it fallerh out with them as it is in the Prouerbe, *All couet, all lose*. For the Honie is neither so good, as being not yet in season, and to bee corrupted with the Schadons, v. which can hardly be cleane taken from it; neither so much by almost the one halfe, sith there remaine yet six or seuen weeke of Honie-gathering.

And the Bees, as men forcibly driuen from their goods and children, are so discouraged, that they seldom thrue after it: specially those that haue swarmed; seeing their companie is leaft but small, and the after-brood is destroyed, which should haue supplied the roomes of them that are gone. And as for those that haue not cast, they might after that time yeeld a swarme, which would be better than the whole stall being driuen: and if they did not swarme at all, they would bee so much the better, either to take for Honie, or keepe for store. v. c. 5. n. 22.

This Driuing of Bees into leere Hiues being nothing so profitable as it seemeth, I doe rather commend vnto you the Driuing of one stall into an other: whereby the fruit of one

8.

The time and manner of Driuing Bees.

V. c. 5. n. 24.

V. c. 5. n. 48.

9.

This driuing of Bees vnaprofitable.

10.

The Honie taken is little and naught.

V. n. 2.

11.

And the Bees driuen, few and poore.

12.

Another kinde of driuing.



13.

*At two times.**V. n. 2.*

14.

*1. Driving in Virgo.**V. n. 3.*

15.

*The manner of driving in Virgo.**V. c. 5. n. 24.*

istaken, and the liues of both are saued together.

And thus some are to be driuen in the latter part of *Virgo*, when they haue done breeding; *v.* and some in *Aquarius* or *Pisces*, before they begin to breed againe. *v. c. 4. n. 12.*

In *Virgo* such stalls onely are to be driuen, as are fit to be killed: *v.* and that into yeerlings or two-yeerlings, which that yeere haue cast twice, and therefore haue few Bees left in them; but yet haue Honie enough. The manner of it is this. Hauing first placed these two stalls, the *Remouer* that is driuen and the *Receiner*, as neere as may be one to another, and so let them stand together six or seuen daies, till they be well acquainted with their standings; when you see the weather faire and constant, late in an euening, about ten a clocke, set the *Remouer* fast on the ground in a Brake, *v.* with his bottome vpward, and the *Receiner* vpon: and binde them close together, as in the former driving. And then, by often clapping the *Remouer* betweene your hands about the space of a quarter of an houre (now and then pawling betweene) hauing driuen most of the Bees into the *Receiner*, and so mingled them all together; let them so stand til the morning. In the morning about Sun-rising, if the weather bee faire, (otherwise you must stay \* longer) doe the like: hauing first shut and couered the other stalls. *v. c. 5. n. 25.*

\* If the weather fit not the next day, you may safely stay till it doe fit, so that no Bees get forth in the meane space.

This done, set the *Receiner* vpon the *Remouers* stoole BVT, be sure to bolster him vp with three Tile-shards, that the driuen Bees may easily get into the Hiue on euery side. And then knocke the *Remouer* downe vpon a Table two or three foot square, set close to the forepart of the stoole: and, by clapping of the Hiue, presently get as many of the Bees forth as you can. And forthwith carry the *Remouer* about a Pearch from the stoole: and there laying him downe, so that the Combes may lie edgelong, after a little while clap him twice or thrice, which will make many of the Bees to fly forth. Then remoue him to another place about the former distance, and there doe likewise: and so to an other, and another, vntill few or no Bees will come forth by this meanes.

And

And euer when you be come to a new place, and there haue got our some Bees; leaue there the *Remouer*, and goe directly to the *Receiuer*, and a little beyond: for the Bees will follow you, and thereby the sooner recouer the Hiue.

After this, hauing remoued the *Receiuer* againe, and laid him with the Combes edglong as before; stay till you see the Bees ascended to the highest part of the Combes in the Skirt of the Hiue: and then resting it on the edge of a Kiuer, and turning the Bees toward your readiest hand, with two or three claps force them out into the Kiuer: and then suddenly carry the Hiue to an other place: and when you see more Bees ascended, haue it backe againe to the Kiuer, and there clap them out as before. This iterate as often as you see any store arise vnto the vpmost part of the Hiue-skirt. Which when they cease to doe, the Hiue is well nigh rid of his Bees. Betweene whiles, carrie the Kiuer to the stall, and knocke out the Bees vpon the Table. Then, hauing first loosed the spleers ends, take out the Combes, beginning at one side: and euer when you haue taken out a Combe, wipe off the Bees with a feather of a Goose wing into the Kiuer, and send it in, out of their sight. When the Combes are all gone, set the Hiue and Kiuer before the *Receiuer*, that the Bees may take vp your leauings. As soone as they begin to bee quiet, take away the Bolsters, and cloome vp the Hiue very close, leauing the doore no wider than must needs bee. And when all is done, set open your other stalls: and carry the Hiue and Kiuer from among the Bees.

If you thinke there be not sufficient prouision for this double Stall in that single Hiue, bestow a full Combe or twaine, v: as need requireth, of the *Remouers* vpon them: and thus will your Bees delight and prosper in new Wax, which in old corrupt Combes would decay.

In *Aquarius* or *Pisces*, when you haue poised your Hines, those that you finde by their lightnesse, vnlikely to indure the Spring for lacke of food, you may in like manner drive into such prouided Stalls, as haue fewest Bees: and so will those *Receiuers* be much the better, and cast both the rather, and greater Swarmes. And if by chance, at any time after,

16.

How to helpe  
those driven  
Bees that want.

V. 6. 8. 11.

17.

Driving in Pis-  
ces.



18.  
How to reuiue  
those that are  
chilled in driving  
V. c. 7. n. 63.

19.  
A third kind of  
Vindemiation.

20.  
Exsection used  
at two times.

21.  
What part to be  
exsected is vn-  
certaine.  
L. 9. c. 15.

Hist. anl. 9. c.  
40.

you finde a Stall decayed, thus may you saue them. Other-  
wise, if he be fit to be fed (v. c. 8. n. 5.) feed him, v. c. 8. n. 15.  
and 16.

If, the weather being not warme, you finde some Bees chil-  
led about the Hiue; fill your warme hands full of them, and  
anon they will flie away to their fellowes. v. And if hap-  
ly any chance to pricke you, (which they will seldom doe)  
your hand will haue the more vertue to reuiue the rest.

This driving will not bee so troublesom as the former,  
because the poore Bees will easily change their hungry  
home for a place of plentie.

**E**Xsection or Castration, is a third kinde of taking: which  
is the cutting out of part of the Combes, part being leaft  
for the Bees prouision. And this was to be done at two  
times in the yeare, \* *In ortu, & occasu Vergiliarum.*

\* *Vergili drum ortus* after *Columella*, l. 9. c. 14. is the eight and fortieth  
day from *Aequinoctium vernum*: after *Var.* the foure and fortieth: but then  
you must vnderstand that they accounted the *Aequinoctium* to bee in the  
eight degree of *Aries*: (although *Hipparchus*, as *Columella* saith, had then  
found it to be in the first.) With vs the Cosmicall rising of *Vergilia* or *Plei-  
ades*, being seuen starres in the necke of *Taurus* and in the foure and twen-  
tieth degree of that signe, is knowne to be in the third of May, the five  
and fiftieth day after the true *Aequinoctium*: which iumpeth with the ac-  
count of *Columella*. And *Vergiliarum occasus*, being in the same degree of  
the opposite signe, is vpon the fift day of Nouember.

But what part is to be taken, and what leaft, I finde it not  
determined. *Priore messe* (saith *Columella*) *dum adhuc rura  
pastionibus abundant, quinta pars fauorum; posteriore, cum  
jam metuitur hyems, tertia relinquenda est.* But *Varro* then  
requireth for their store two third parts; *Vt ne plus tertia pars  
eximatur mellis, reliquum hyemationi relinquatur.* And *Ari-  
stotle* because (as *Columella* granteth) *hic modus non est in  
omnibus regionibus certus*; doth not prescribe any cerraine  
part, but leauing it to the discretion of the Bee-master, saith,  
*Cum favos apiarij eximunt, cibi tantum relinquunt, quantum  
per hyemem sufficiat: quod si satis sit, servatur examen; sin mi-  
nus, vel moritur ibidem, (si ne discedat hyems obftet) vel de-  
rit sedem, si serenum nanciscuntur.*

This

This way of taking, as appeareth, was anciently vsed in plentifull Countries, as *Greece, Sicily, Italy, &c.* But the former exsection, to wit, in the Spring, *Aristotle* no where mentioneth: and surely it must needs doe more harme than good, seeing the Hiuies are then full of Schadons, which being spild, spill their swarming, and the store of Honie, which they seeke for, is then well spent.

And that also in the Autumne (which yet is the fitter time) seemeth no lesse vnprofitable than troublesom: because the Bees, in the Spring following, if they lacke not Honie to liue on, yet shall they lacke Cells to lay their young in, whereby their breed will bee hindered. And at neither time can it be done without much spoile of Bees.

But howsoever it faied with them, for our Country I take it to be verie vnfitting. And therefore I say the lesse of it: referring the curious Reader vnto the fifteenth Chapter of the ninth Booke of *Columella*, and vnto *Georgius Pictorius*, who in his foureteenth Chapter writeth thereof at large.

*The second part of this Chapter sheweth the trying of  
(1) Honie and (3) Wax, with the (2) making  
of Meth or Hydromel.*

**T**HE Hiue being housed, v: squat it softly against the ground, vpon the sides, not the edges of the Combes: and loosing the ends of the Spleets with your fingers, and the edges of the Combes, where they sticke to the sides of the Hiue, with a wooden Slice; take them out one after an other. Then hauing wiped off the halfe-dead Bees with the Feather of a Goose-wing, breake the Combes presently, while they are warme, into three parts: the first sheere Honie and Wax, the second Honie and Wax with Sandarach, the third dry Wax without Honie. And that they may breake right where you would haue them, marke the places deeply with the edge of your knife. But first prouide necessarie Instruments, as Panns, Kiuers, Tongs, wide Sieues, or Wheat-ridders, a Slice, Kniues, Straining-bagges, a Tub or Kieue, with a Tap, and Tap-waze,

22.  
*Exsection ancient, but not profitable.*

23.  
*Neither first.*

24.  
*Not second.*

25.  
*Specially for our Country.*

V. p. 177. 6.

I  
*The Combes to be divided into three parts.*

2.  
*Necessarie Instruments being first provided.*



Tap-waze, a hairen Clensieue, \* Honie-pots, Wax-moulds, Meth-barrels, &c.

\* Treene vessels, if they leake not, are better than earthen: which if they breake not by some mischance, the verie force of the Honie is able to cracke.

These things provided, take out the first Combe: and setting the Honie-end in a Ridder, resting vpon Tongs ouer a cleane Pan or Kiuer that will not leake; marke and breake off the first part for Honie, and leaue it there: then going to the Kieue fitted with a Tap and Tap-waze, marke and break off the second part for Meth or Hydromel, and leaue it there: and lay the third part aside for Wax. Then taking out an other Combe doe the like, &c. till the Ridder be full.

If you meane to make two shoots, and so two sorts of Honie; let your assistant presently cut the first part into thin slices, and, without any more adoe, let the Honie runne his first shoot. But this is to be vnderstood of the darker part of the Combes: for the pure white Cells in the vpper part (which containe nothing but pure white, or yellowish Liue-Honie) you may as well crush betweene your hands: and this will be fine ordinarie Honie.

But if, for some speciall vse, you would haue some Honie yet more fine and pure; then onely slice the purer part of the Combes, being yet warme with the temperate heat of the Bees, and so let the pure Liue-honie runne through a cleane Clensieue. For, *In omni melle quod per se stat, (ut mustumoleumq;) appellaturq; acetum, maxime laudabile est.* Of all Honie that which runneth of it selfe, (as new Wine and Oile) and is called \* *Acetum*, is most commendable.

This *Acetum* or finest *Nectar*, for his incorrupted puritie, is called Virgin-Honie. *Quod è favis sponte primum defluit, virginem mel vulgo appellatur.* Plautius in Fernel. l. 7. de Meth. Med.

Whereof there are two sorts. The right Virgin-honie is of a Swarme: v. that which is of an old Stall, though it runne first and of it selfe, and were gathered the same yeare; yet being partly mixt with other, and laid vp in corrupter vessels, not in the pure Virgin-Cells, v: is but a second or bastard

3.  
The dressing of  
the first part for  
Honie in two  
shoots.

4.  
The first shoot  
for fine ordinarie  
Honie.

5.  
Or for Virgin-  
Honie, which is  
most fine.

Nat. hist. l. 11.  
c. 15.

6.  
Two sorts of vir-  
gin honie.  
V. 6. n. 29.

V. 6. n. 14.

bastard Virgin-honie, rather to be called the finest ordinary.  
v: c. 6. n. 30.

\* *Aceton* without drosse or dregges. For *κάρτος* doth properly signifie *Cubile* a Bed, and as here vsed for Dregges, because the Dregges of Wine and Oyle and such liquors, are as a Bed or Ground whereon they lye: in which respect we also call them *Lies* or *Grounds*. But this Metaphor to the Dregs of Honie is somewhat Cataphrestical: because the Honie beareth his Drosse, and not the Drosse the Honie.

But the hard Corne-honie v: in the top of the Combes, specially if there be any store; because it will not runne, you must either wash into the warme Meth-liquor; or melt it with the Cells on a soft fire, or in a hot ouen, or in *Balneo Marie*, v: and so shall you haue the Honie by it selfe, and the Wax swimming aboue it: which you may take away when it is cold. But so this good Honie will become but course: and therefore put it to the second shoot.

Hauiing now taken so many Stalls as you can dresse this euening, v: take the rest as soone after as you may, v: and let the Honie be all tryed out, before you soake the second part.

The Hiuies being rid, carrie them into your Garden (a Pearch at least from any Stall) for the Bees to take vp your leauings: v: And haue still by you a paille of faire water to wash your hands in: which water must be for the Meth.

When the Honie hath runne what it will; put this first shoot, whether it be ordinarie or Virgin-honie, into a pick-ed bag, to straine it into his pot by it selfe. And let the remainder bee crusht with warme hands that it may runne againe for a second sort, which is likewise to be strained. That which is leaft at the last, in the Bags, Ridders, and else-where, wash into the second shoot of the Must v: to giue it his iust strength.

The weather being not warme, set the Honie by the fire to helpe the running.

Ocherwise if you be in haste, and meane to make but one sort of Honie; first slice off the vpper part of the Combe (euén as much as you finde void of Sandarach) for Honie: and presently let your assistant worke all together with warme hands, and so make but one shoot, which after ward

7.  
Corne-honie got  
out by water or  
fire.

V. c. 6. n. 27.

Ch. 28.

V. p. 3. n. 7.

V. \* in p. 1. n. 4.  
V. Ibidem.

V. c. 8. n. 13.

8.  
The second shoot  
for course Honie.

V. n. 17.

9  
The dressing of  
the first part in  
one shoot.



V. 3. 7.

is to be strained. v: Then going to the Kiue, slice off the second part (euen all that hath Honie) for Meth. And set aside the drie part for Wax. And thus will your Honie be good enough: and such as, compared with the vulgar Honie, may well goe for fine.

10

The vulgar Honie grossly handled.

For the Honie-men (because thus to cut each Combe into diuers parts, and diuersly to dresse each part, would be too tedious to them that haue much to doe) doe vse to make but oneworke of all; with a thin light shouell pounding and compounding the Honie, and Wax, and Bees, and Schadons, and Sandarach all together. And then putting this confused stuffe into a strong hairen Bag, doe with a Presse or Wrenge violently wring out all that will runne. And this, hauing first his season of heat ouer the fire, they put vp into barrells or other vessels to worke: whereby though it bee much purged, yet can it not choose but participate the nature and taste of those things wherewith it was so thoroughly infected. This done, the Pulse remaining in the Bagge they slice with a shredding-knife into a Trough or other vessel, and all-to-wash it and mash it in faire water for Medecine: which, when the sweetnesse is all washt out, being crushed dry, the balls they try for Wax.

11.

The working of Honie, and how to helpe it.

Honie being put vp warme into pots, will in two or three daies worke vp a skum of Wax, Honie, and Drosse together: which being taken off with a spoone, put to the second part. In cold weather the Honie will not worke well without the heat of the fire. The best way is to put it into an ouen after the batch is forth, but not before you can abide to hold your hand vpon the bottom, for feare of overheating the Honie. The next way is to stirre it in *Balneo Maria*, v: till it be all warme.

V. p. 3. n. 7.

12.

Diuers Countries yeeld diuers kinds of Honie.

V. 5. 6. n. 31.

The differences and degrees of Honie in goodnesse, are as well naturall as artificiall. For as it is made better or worse by the ordering and handling of it; so is it in it selfe better or worse, according to the different condition of the soile where it is gathered. v. The Champion-honie is accounted almost twice as good as the Heath-honie, although they be ordered both alike. For when the vulgar champion is sole

for nine pound the Barrell, the like Heath-honie will scarce yeeld five. And generally the finer the Wheat and the Wooll is, the finer is the Honie of the same Region: v. and therefore no maruaile that the course Heath, hath as course Honie as Wooll.

Good Honie, when it hath wrought, hath these properties whereby it is knowne: It is cleere, odoriferous, yelow like pale gold (but right Virgin-honie is more crySTALLINE at the first, v.) sharpe, sweet, and pleasant to the taste, of a meane consistence betweene thicke and thinne, so clammie, that being taken vp vpon your fingers end, in falling it will not part, but hang together like a long string, as that vseth to doe which is clarified. So doth *Jacobus Syluius* describe the best honie. *Mel optimum sit purum adeo ut totum perluceat, odorum, flavum, acerrimum, dulcissimumq; gustanti, & jucundissimum, consistentia nec crassa nec liquida, sed tam sibi coherens ut continuitatem suam, quasi linea longissima, non intercisum seruet, si digito attollitur: idem coquendo paucam spumam emittit.* And *Gnil. Plantius.* *Mel probum est quod inter crassissimum & tenuissimum, sit mediocre, sapore dulcissimum, & acerrimum, simulq; dulcedinis sensum inferens & vellicatu pungens linguam, colore pallidum aut subrutulum, & pellucidum, odoratissimum & recentissimum, quodq; sublatum non facile obsequacem lentorem abruptatur, pondere grave, & inter coquendum spuma parum emittens.* In *Fern. l. 7. de Oxymel.*

This good Honie, specially that part which is in the bottom, will in time grow (like vnto Corne-honie, v. in the vppermost part of the Combes) hard and white: such as is the Honie of \* *Spaine* and *Narbona* in *France*, which is accounted the chiefeft, and compared with that of † *Hymettus* and *Hybla*. But this is to be vnderstood of ordinarie Honie: for the pure Virgin Honie will bee neither hard nor white, but changeth his liquiditie and crySTALLINE cleernesse v. into a thicke softnesse, and bright yelow colour.

\* *Quin Hispani & Narbonenses mittunt albissimum & longe praestantissimum, idemq; praedurum.* *Sylu. l. 1. med.*

† *Nec Attico aut Hyblae inferius, cum regionis temperatura, & thymi larga luxuries utrobique consentiant.* *Idem l. 2.*

And

V. p. 3. n. 4. &  
c. 6. n. 31.

13.  
How to know  
good Honie.  
V. c. 6. n. 29.

14.  
Good Honie with  
standing waxeth  
hard and white  
V. c. 6. n. 27. &  
28.

V. c. 6. n. 29.



15.  
The best of the  
Honie is in the  
bottom.

And alwaies the best part of all Honie is that which is lowest in the vessell. \* For as the best oyle is in the top, and the best wine in the middle; so the best Honie is in the bottom. *Mellis exilior pars fluitat, quæ eximenda est: pura vera & valida subsistit.* Arist. Hist. ani. l. 9. c. 49. *In imo vase quod sistit, supernatante pretiosius.* Plan. in Fern. l. 7. de Oxy-mel.

\* As among liquors Oyle excelleth in lightnesse, and Honie in heaviness; so in both that part is best, which excelleth in his excellling quality: and Wine being of a midling weight, is best in the middle.

The weight of these three, one to an other, hath this proportion. Oile is not so heauie as Wine by one tenth part: for if you fill a measure with Wine, and diuide it into ten parts; the same measure of Oile is no heavier than nine of them. And Honie is heavier than Wine by the halfe: for if you fill a measure with Wine, the same measure of Honie will weigh that and halfe so much more. *Quoniam Oleum leuius est Vino parte \* nona, Mel verò grauius Vino parte dimidia; quæcunq; mensura capit Mellis uncias quindecim, capit Vini uncias decem, & Olei novam.* Fern. Meth. l. 4. c. 6.

\* Ceu potius  
decima.

16.  
The dressing of  
the second part  
for Meth.

**T**He second part of the Combes, appointed for Hydromel or Meth, you must first rid of the sandarach as neere as you can: cutting off that which is by it selfe, and \* picking out that which is among the Honie: all which refuse, because of the wax that is with it, cast to the third part.

\* If thus to part the Honie and the drosse shall seeme but a tedious piece of worke; you may leaue it vnto them that are expert in it. V. c. 8. n. 13. And make your Meth of more meere Honie.

17.  
How to make the  
Meth-liquor in  
two shoots.

And then, when the Honie is all strained, and put vp; lay this second part a soake in milk-warme faire water, (that which commerh from heauen is counted best) in the Kiue or Tub with his Tap and Tap-waze. But first wash the drie Combs therein, if any Honie chance to sticke vnto them in the handling: then serape and wash the Spleets, and lay them aside out of the way: and lastly, crush all the Pulse well betweene your hands, specially that which lieth lowest, and stirring it about all-to-wash it: and so let it steepe all that night.

In the morning let this first shoot of the Must or Woor, being made of his iust strength, v: runne through the Tap-Waze. The Pulse which remaineth, when you haue squeezed out the liquor, breake and wash in fresh warme water in the Kiue, for a second shoot. When it hath lien a while in soake, first take those parcels that swim, and squeezing out the liquor \* betweene your hands, lay the balls aside to the third part: (but let your Bees haue the perusing of them) then take vp those that lie in the bottome, and doe likewise: which because they haue most Honie, you must take most paines in washing and crushing them. And while this is doing, let this small liquor runne into a vessell by it selfe. When it is out, wash into it all the remainders of Honie v: adding some course Honie, if need be, to make it of his iust strength: v: and then let both shoots run together through a † Clensieue into the Kiue againe. And thus shall you lose none of your Honie.

The first shoot.

V. n. 19. &amp; 24.

The second shoot.

V. n. 2.

V. n. 19. &amp; 24.

\* If there be much Pulse, vse a presse, when the liquor hath runne what it will.

† The Clensieue is vnto the Tap-waze for Mothe, as the Strainer to the Ridder for Honie. v. n. 7.

*Metb* or *Hydromel* is of two sorts: the weaker and the stronger, *Mede* and *Metbeglen*.

18.  
Two sorts of Hydromel, Mede and Metbeglen.

For the making of *Mede*, if the Must, when it is all together, be not strong enough to beare an Egge the bredth of a two-pence aboue it, then put so much of your course Honie into it as will giue it that strength: which is sufficient for ordinary *Mede*. And afterward vntill night, euer now and then stirre it well about the Kiue.

19.  
When the liquor is strong enough for Mede.

If you would make a greater quantitie, then must you adde a proportionable measure of water and Honie: namely six of that for one of this. The learned Physitian *Mathias de Lobel* requireth this proportion of six to one to be boyled to foure. His receipt of Spices is Cinamom, Ginger, Pepper, Graines, Cloues, *Ana* two drammes. The second morning put to the Must the scum of the Honie, stirre all together, and stoope the Kiue a little backward. When it

20.  
What proportion of water to hony.



hath setled an houre or two, draw it out to be boyled. And when you see the grounds beginne to come, stay; and let the rest (saue the very thick grounds, which cast to your Bees) runne into some vessell by it selfe: which, when it is seded, peere out into the boiling vessell through the Clenfieu, and cast out these grounds also into your Garden.

21.  
How, and how  
long the Must  
must be boyled.

This Must being set ouer a gentle fire, when you see the Scum gathered thicke all ouer, and the bubbles at the side begin to breake it; hauing slacked the fire, to cease the boyling, skim it cleane. Then presently make a fresh fire to it: and when you see the second skum ready, hauing slacked the fire againe, take it quickly away: then make to it the third fire, and let it boyle to the wasting of a fourth part, if it bee made of the washing of Combes; and to the wasting of one fift or sixt part, if it be made of cleane Honie: not ceasing in the meane space to rake off the Scum as cleane as you can. One houres boyling may suffice: but if the Meth bee of cleane Honie, it may as well be done in halfe the time.

\* In stead of twice slacking the fire, you may twice coole the boyling Must with cold Must reserued: or else be sure that it doe boyle all the while onely at one side, and not all ouer.

22.  
The receipt of  
Spices.

After all this, put in the spices, viz. to a dozen gallons of the skimmed Must Ginger one ounce, Cinamom halfe an ounce, Cloues and Mace *Ana* two drams, Pepper and Graines *Ana* one dramme, all grosse-beaten, the one halfe of each being sowed in a bag, the other loose: and so let it boile a quarter of an houre more.

The end of boiling is thoroughly to incorporate the Boorne and the Honie, and to purge out the drosse: which being once done, any longer boiling is vnprofitable, as diminishing more the quantitie, than increasing the strength and goodnesse of the Hydromel.

23.  
How the Must is  
to be used when  
it is boyled.

As soone as it is boyled enough, take it from the fire, and set it a cooling: the next day, when it is setled, poure it out, through a Haire-siue or linnen bag, into the Kiue: (reseruing still the Lees for the Bees) and there let it stand covered three or soure daies till it worke; and let it worke two daies. Then

Then draw it through the Tapwaze, and run it into a Barrell scalded with Bay-leaves, making the Spice-bag fast at the tap. If there remain much grounds, you may purifie them by boiling and skimming againe as before: but this will neuer be so good as the first: and therefore you may put it by it selfe, or with some remainder of the best, into a small vessell to spend first, before it be soure. If the *Meth* be not much, you may run it the next day, and let it worke in the Barrell. Being runned, it will in time be couered with a mother: which if, by iogging the vessell, or by other meanes, it be broken; the *Meth* will turne soure. But so will it make excellent Vineger, and the sooner, if it be set in the Sun: which the longer you keeps, the better it will be.

*Methaglen* is the more generous or stronger *Hydromel*: being vnto *Mede* as *Vinum* to *Lora*. For it beareth an Egge the breadth of a groat or six pence: and is vsually made of finer hony, with a lesse proportion of water; namely, foure measures for one: receiuing also in the composition as well certaine sweet and holosome hearbs, as also a larger quantitie of spices: namely, to euerie halfe Barrell or sixteene Gallons of the skimmed Must, Eglantine, Majoram, Rose-marie, Time, Winter-sauourie, *ana* halfe an ounce; and Ginger two ounces, Cinamom one ounce, Cloues and Mace *ana* halfe an ounce, Pepper, Graines, *ana* two drams, the one halfe of each being bag'd, the other boiled loose. So that whereas the ordinarie *Mede* will scarce last halfe a yeere; good *Methaglen* the longer it is kept, the more delicate and holosome it will be: and withall the cleerer and brighter, according to the *Etymon* of the name. v. \* in p. 3. n. 23.

He that listeth to know the many and sundry makings of this holosome drinke, must learne it of the ancient *Britaines*: who therein doe passe all other people. One excellent receit I will here recite: and it is of that which our renowned Queene of happie memorie did so well like, that she would euerie yeere haue a vessell of it.

First, gather a bushell of Sweet-briar-leaves, and a bushell of Tyme, halfe a bushell of Rose-marie, and a pecke of Bay-leaves. Seeth all these, being well washed in a Furnace of

24.  
The making of  
Methaglen.

25.  
The Queenes  
Methaglen.



faire water : let them boile the space of halfe an houre, or better : and then poure out all the water and herbes into a Vate and let it stand till it be but milk-warne : then straine the water from the herbes, and take to euerie \* six Gallons of water one Gallon of the finest Honie, and put it into the Boorne, and labour it together halfe an houre : then let it stand two daies, stirring it well twice or thrice each day. Then take the liquor and boile it anew : and when it doth seeth, skim it as long as there remaineth any drosse. When it is † cleere put it into the Vate as before, and there let it be cooled. You must then haue in a readinesse a Kieue of new Ale or Beere, which as soone as you haue emptied, suddenly whelme it vpside downe, and set it vp againe, and presently put in the *Methaglen*, and let it stand three daies a working. And then run it vp in Barrels, tying at euerie Tap-hole, by a Pack-thread, a little bag of Cloues and Mace, to the value of an ounce. It must stand halfe a yeece before it be drunke.

\* If you maruell that so great a quantitie of water is required ; it is partly because of the goodnesse of the Honie, which being pure and fine goeth further than ordinarie : and partly that it may haue the longer time in boiling, before it come to his strength. And therefore some will haue eight parts of water to one of Honie : but then they boile it so much the longer.

† The third part at least being wasted.

26.  
The dressing of  
the third part  
for Wax.

27.  
First boile it  
with water.

28.  
Then straine it  
by pressing.

**T**HE third Part consisting of wax and drosse, set over the fire in a Kettle or Caldron that may easily containe it : and poure into it so much water as will make the wax to swim, that it may boile without burning : and for this cause, while it is seething with a soft fire, stir it often. When it hath sod a while and is thoroughly melted, take it off the fire, and presently poure it out of the Kettle into a Strainer of thin strong Linnen, or of Twisted-haire, readie placed vpon a Wrenge or Presse : and then winding and doubling the necke of the Bag, lay on the Couer and presse out the liquor as long as any Wax commeth into a Kieue of cold water, but first wet therewith both the Bag and the Presse, to keepe the Wax from sticking. At the first commeth forth most water, at the last most drosse, in the middle-most Wax.

The



The Wax waxing hard, make into Balls, squeezing out the water with your hands. When you haue thus done, presently while they are warme breake all the Balls in (2.) small Crumlers into a Skillet or Kettle set ouer a (3.) soft fire. While it is melting, stir it and skim it with a spoone (4.) wet in cold water: and as (5.) soone as it is melted and skimmed cleane, take it off. And hauing provided the (6.) mould, first (7.) warme the bottome, specially if the cake be small, and (8.) besmeare the sides with Honie, and then instantly poure in the wax (9) (being as coole as it may run) through a linnen straining-bag. When you come neere the bottome, peere it gently till you see the drosse comming: Which straine into some other mould by it selfe. And when it is cold, either trie againe, or hauing pared away the bottome, reserue it, as it is, for some vse.

When the Wax is in the mould, if any froth yet remaine vpon it, blow it together at one side, and skim it off lightly with a wet spoone.

This done, let not the cake abroad, or where it may coole hastily vpon, but in the warme house: and if it be great, couer the mould with a Platter, as close as you can, to keepe the top from cooling, till the (10.) inward heat be alayed: and so let it stand, not moving the mould till the cake be cold. If it sticke, a little warming of the vessell or mould will presently loose it: so that it will slip out.

(1.) So will they breake the smaller with lesse labour. (2.) That the wax may melt the sooner, and all together. (3.) For a raffe fire will burne it, and change both colour and qualitie. (4.) That the skum sticke not. (5.) For ouer-heating will discolour the Wax, turning the bright yellow into a larke or reddish colour, not so commendable in Wax: for thereby it is knowne to haue lost of his fatnesse and sweernesse, and to be the worse for all vses. (6.) Which may be a bason or other vessell of mettall or earth, bigger vward than in the bottom. (7.) Lest the Wax first poured in (which is the best) being presently cooled, lie beneath the drosse. (8.) To keepe the Wax from sticking to the sides of the mould, and consequently to helpe saue the Cake from cracking. For Wax shrinketh in cooling, as new walles in drying: and therefore if the Cake sticke not, it shrinketh together from the sides, and so is lesse than the mould, and whole: but if it sticke fast to the sides, then must it needs cracke, one part shrinking from another (specially if it coole hastily vpon) as it happeneth commonly in great Cakes: For small ones, whose inward heat is alayed

29.

Next make the  
Wax into Balls.

30.

Last of all melt  
and cast it in a  
mould.

can W 1002

bom ob ul 2

ul 101 b 1002

a. 101

31.

And keepe the  
cake from  
cracking.

mit 1002 101

1002 101 1002

1002



32.  
How to know  
good Wax.

Silv. de med.  
simpl. delectu.  
lib. 1.

alayed by that time the vpper part beginneth to harden, are not so subiect to cracking. (9.) & (10.) For the great heat of the Wax doth cast vp the watterie vapours mingled with it: Which so long as the vpper part of the Cake continueth liquid, doe easily passe: but when it is hardened, and the Wax yet feruent hot beneath; the vapours being violent through the inward heat, must needs either cracke the Cake, or heave it and make it hollow, or both, specially if it be verie great: for then will the heat be both stronger and longer: but this is helped by not sticking. v. antenm. (1.)

The properties or tokens of good Wax are (1) most yellow, sweet, fat, (2) fast or close, (3) light, (4) pure, and void of all other matter. *Cera sit flavissima, odorata, pinguis, coacta, levis, pura, & aliena omni materia carens.*

(1) That is most light yellow, fardest from red, and nearest to white: for as in gold the deepest, so in Wax and Hony (v. n. 13) the palest yellow is best: yea the pure Virgin-wax at the first is white. v. c. 6. n. 14. (2) not hollow as the froth is, (3) For Wax, like Oile, is best in the top, as Hony in the bottom (v. n. 15.) except the hollow froth, which is to be skimmed away. v. n. 30. (4) and therefore the bottom, vnto which the drosse doth descend, is not good.

The third part of this Chapter sheweth the singular vertues of

(1) Hony, (2) Methe, and (3) Wax for the use and comfort of man.

1.  
The properties  
and vertues of  
Hony.



Hony is (1) hot and dry in the second degree: it is of (2) subrill parts, and therefore doth pierce as Oile and (3) easily passe into the parts of the bodie: It hath (4) a power to cleanse, and some sharpnesse withall, and therefore it (5) openeth obstructions, it (6) cleareth the brest and lights of those humors, which fall from the head to those parts, it (7) looseth the belly, (8) purgeth the foulness of the bodie, and (9) pro-uoketh Vrine, it (10) cutteth and casteth vp Flegmatike matter, and therefore sharpneth the stomackes of them which, by reason thereof, haue little appetite, (11) it purgeth those things which hurt the cleerenesse of the eyes, (12) it nourisheth verie much, (13) it breedeth good bloud, (14) it stirreth vp and preserueth naturall heat, and prolongeth old age (reade the note) (15) it keepeth all things vncorrupt, which are put into it, and therefore (16) Physisians doe temper therewith such medicines as they meane to keepe long:

long: (17) yea the bodies of the dead, being embalmed with Hony, haue beene thereby preserved from putrefaction. (18) It is a soueraigne medicament both for outward and inward maladies; (*reade the note.*) (19) It helpeth the griefes of the jawes, (20) the kernels growing within the mouth, (21) and the squinancie or inflammation of the muscle of the inner gargil, for which purpose it is gargarized, and the mouth washed therewith: (22) it is drunke against the biting of a Serpent (23) or mad Dog: and (24) it is good for them which haue eaten Mushromes, (25) or drunke Popy; against which euill yet, Rosed-hony is taken warme. (26) It is also good for the falling sicknesse, and better than Wine, because it cannot arise to the head, as the Wine doth. (27) Lastly, it is a remedie against a surfet: for they that are skilfull in physicke, when they perceiue any mans stomacke to be overcome, they first ease it by vomit: and then, to settle his braine, and to stay the noisome fume from ascending to his head, they giue him Honie vpon bread. In respect of which great vertues (28) the right composition of those great Antidotes, Treacle, and Mithridate (although they consist, the one of more than fiftie, the other of more than sixtie Ingredients) requireth thrice so much Honie as of all the rest. All which premisses considered, no maruell though the wise King said, My sonne eat Hony, for it is good: *Prov. 24. 13.* that the holy Land is so often and so much commended for sowing therewith: *Exod. 3. 8. 13. 5. 33. 3. Lev. 20. 24. Num. 13. 27. Dent. 8. 8.* and that the Eternal Immanuel did vse it for his food. *Isa. 7. 15. Luk. 24. 43.* Yea Honie, if it be pure and fine, *v.* is so good in it selfe; that it must needs be good, euen for them whose queisic stomackes are against it. But indeed the vulgar hony may well be disliked, as being fluttishly handled, & much corrupted with stopping, and Bees both young & old, *v.* & some with other mixtures also.

2.  
Against both  
outward and  
inward griefes.  
Synanche.  
Angina.

*V. p. 2. n. 4. & 6.*

*V. p. 2. n. 10.*

(1) Galen. de simpl. med. facult. lib. 7. (2) tenuium partium. Simeon Seth. (3) facile distribuitur. Matthias de Lobel. (4) detergendi vim. Galen & Seth. (5) Lobel. (6) Wikerus, & Freitagius. (7) Seth. & Freitag: & Plantius in Fernelium. de syrupis. (8) Seth. (9) Seth. & Pictorius. (10) (11) Lobel. (12) (13) Freitagius. (14) calorem nativum suscit & tucur, & longam prorogat senectam. Plant. loco supra citato.

Exempla



Exempla citat Franciscus Valerius Medicus locorum com. lib. 3. cap. 13. Antiochus Medicus, & Telephus Grammaticus annosi senes Attico melle pane alicubi excepto plurimum utebantur. Quos Galenus l. 9. de Sanit. tuenda seu exempla vitæ senum, quibus esset optimæ victus ratione illasa senectus, proponit. Melle itaque sensibus plurimum utendum consulo, si modo sue ipsorum valetudinis rationem habere velint. Et l. 3. c. 19. Mellis vim proferenda vitæ, senectutis longæ agenda, authores affirmant: Democritus Philosophus, qui melle oblectatus assidue, in annum centesimum nonumque fati diem distulit, interrogatus, ut scribit Athenæus, quomodo quispiam sanus vivere possit. Si exteriora oleo iungit, interiora melle irriget. Erat etiam Pythagoricorum cibus panis cum melle. Aristoxenus eos sine morbo vivere posse asserit, qui ea semper in prandijs comedant. Licet multum Cynios vivere scribit, quia, apud Sardonem habitantes, melle semper vescuntur. Nec immerito, quum alimentum sic familiare, & natura amicum, dulcedine quam possidet jucundum: obstructions insuper eximat, infarctusque liberet, ventrem molliat, corporis habitum calefaciat, urinam cieat, thoracem pulmonesque iuvet, tonsillis & uræ medeatur. Quæ cum tanta possit, vel Dioscoridi & Galeni testimonio haud immerito producendæ ætati vitæque prorogandæ idoneum esse medicamentum asserimus. (15) Seth. & Plin. hist. l. 7. c. 3. (16) Pictorius. (17) Claudius Cæsar scribit hippocentaurum in Thessalia natum eodem die interiisse. Et nos principatu illius allatum illi ex Ægypto in melle vidimus. Pl. hist. l. 7. c. 3. (18) Mel calidum siccumque ordine secundo aperit, putredini obstitit, siccit, deterget, expurgatque meatus & ulcera. Fern. Method. lib. 6. c. 12. Item, Mel & saccharum potionibus admixta vires naturales in morbis sopitis & languentes excusitant & erigunt: nativumque calorem qui solus morbos concoquit & mitigat, recreant: crassaque extenuando, viscosa extergendo, & obstructa impediendo purgationes quam facillimas præstant. Plantius in Fern. de Symplic. Item, Mel abstergerendi vim habet, ora vasorum aperit, humores evocat, quæ ratione in sordida ulcera sinusque commodè infunditur, decoctum atque impositum abscedentem carnem glutinat, medetur lichenibus, impetigini coctum cum liquido alumine & illitum. Item aurium sonitui & dolori cum fossili sale trito tepidum instillatur: lentes & fæda capitis animalia illitum necat, oculorum caliginem discutit, faucibus, tonsillis, angina collatum gargarizatumque medetur, urinam citat, auxiliatur tussi; contra haustum meconium cum rosaceo calidum assumitur, adversus venena fungorum & rabiosi canis morsus linctum aut potum proficit: crudum tamen alvum inflat, tussim laceffit: & ea de re despumato utendum. Dioscorid. lib. 3. cap. 101. (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) Pictorius. Mellis natura talis est, ut putrescere corpora non sinat; Faucibus, tonsillis, angina, omnibusque oris desiderijs utilissimum, arescentique in febribus linguz. Pl. hist. l. 22. c. 24. (26) Lobel. (27) Pict. (28) Fernel. Method. l. 7.

3.  
For whom Honey  
is best.

7. (14) in note  
2.

Hony is most fit for (1) old men, v. for women and children, for such as are rheumaticke and flegmaticke, and generally for all that are of a cold temperature. (2) To young men, and those that are of a hot constitution it is not so good, because it is easily turned into choller: and yet Lobel saith wee know that Honie taken fasting doth much good vnto some natures,

natures, which haue hot livers: and in this point he preferreth our English Honie. *Minus* (saith he) *speciosum ac delicatum Anglum: sed quibusdam presertim saltibus & pascuis, ubi lana commendatior, v. lectum, biliosa excrementa inferius extergendo pellit, & aciei oculorum prodesse putatur.* So that he seemeth to say, that our honie is hurtfull to none; because it purgeth that euill humour, which other Hony, in some bodies, is thought to breed. But the Prouerb saith, *Too much of one thing is good for nothing*: and the Wis-man in his Proverbs, *It is not good to eat much Honie.* Prou. 25, 27. and in the 16, 6. *Hast thou found Honie? eat so much as is sufficient for thee*: &c. For all Hony often and immoderately taken (3) causeth obstruction, (4) contrarie to his naturall qualitie, and so in time (5) breedeth the scab.

4.  
English Hony.

P. p. 2, n. 12.

5.  
Too much Hony  
vnhalsome.

(1) (2) Galen. l. 4. simpl. med. dist. 3. c. 5. Item Seth. Pictorius, & Freitag.  
(3) Wikerus & Freitagius (4) vide (8) & (18) supra. (5) Lobel.

Raw Hony doth (1) more loose the belly, (2) causeth the cough, and (3) filleth the entrailes with winde, specially if it be of the courser sort. Being boiled it is (4) more nourishing, (5) lighter of digestion, and (6) lesse laxatiue, also (7) lesse sharpe and abstersory: for which cause they vse it (8) to knit together hollow and crooked vlcers, and likewise (9) to close other disioined flesh. It is also good against the (10) pleurisie, against the (11) pthetisis, and all other diseases of the lungs.

6.  
The different  
operations of raw  
& boiled Hony.

(1) (2) (3) Freitag. Pictor. & Wikerus. (4) Freitag. & Wiker. (5) Wikerus. (6) Pictorius. (7) Gal. & Seth, & Fernelius Methodi. lib. 6. c. 12. *Crudum cocto & despumato detergentius quidem multo est & mordacius: sed eo minus agglutinat.* (8) ad finem glutinationes, Seth. sinuosorum ulcerum, Galen. (9) (10) (11) Pictorius.

Honie is clarified by boiling: and that either by it selfe, or else with a fourth part of water, or other liquor. But alwaies in boiling skim it, that it may be pure.

7.  
Two waies to  
clarifie Hony.

By it selfe you must boile it vntill it will yeeld no more skum, (which will be about halfe an houre) and that with a very soft fire, or in a double vessell; lest, by ouer-heating, it get a bitter taste, and lest it suddainly run ouer and flame.

\* The



\* The right skum, which is drosse, is short and brittle: which when it is cleane taken away, the force of the fire will cause the very Hony to rise vp like a skum: but that will then be tougher and more clammy than the drosse skum, and so will all the rest be, when it is cold, as being over-boiled: therefore be sure to take it off in time.

† It is a vessell set in a vessell of boiling water, called, *Bainum Marie*, which is best.

V. Fernel, l. 4. c.

15.

\* Lesse white  
may serue, if the  
Honie be good.

With water it is to be boiled an houre at the least, even vntill the water be evaporated: v. which thing is knowne by the bubbles that rise from the bottom: then, to make it more pure, put into euery pound of Hony the white of one Egge, and afterward skim it againe in the boiling. The fire may be more seruient at the first; but toward the end it must be slacke: for it is then apt to be set on fire, as the meere Hony, and to become bitter with violent heat.

The course Honie being boiled and clarified hath a pleasant taste, and is comparable for most vses to the purest bottom-honie being raw.

Which pure Honie, if you be disposed to boile it, will aske lesse time to be clarified, as yeelding little or no skum at all: and in taste and vertue it is more excellent.

When your Honie is boiled enough, take it from the fire, and rather too soone, than too late: for if there bee any drosse remaining, you shall finde it in the top, when it is cold: but ouer-much boiling consumeth the spirituous parts of the Honie, and turneth the sweet taste into bitter.

8.

The quintessence  
of Honie.

9.

The vertues of it.

And such is Honie in his owne kinde, both raw and boiled. It is also altered by distillation into a water, which *Raimundus Lullius* that excellent Chymist calleth the Quintessence of Honie. This Quintessence dissolueth Gold, and maketh it potable: likewise any sort of pretious stone that is put therein. It is of such vertue, that, if any be dying, and drinke two or three drammes thereof, presently he will reuiue. If you wash any wound there-with, or other sore, it will heale quickly. It is also good against the Cough, Catarre, and paines of the Melt, and against many other diseases. Being giuen for the space of six and fortie daies together to one that hath the Palsie, it helpeth him. Which thing

John

*John Hester* a Practicall Chymist, in his Key of Philosophie, professeth himselfe to haue proued. It helpeth also the falling sicknesse, and preserueth the body from putrefaction. Of so maruellous efficacie is this water.

The making of it is after this manner. Take two pound of perfect pure Honie, and put it into a great Glasse, that foure parts of fiue may remaine emptie: \* Lute it well with a Head and Receiuer, and giue it † fire vntill there appeare certaine white Fumes: which, by laying wet clothes on the Receiuer and Head, and changing them when they are warme, will turne into a water of a red colour like blood. When it is all distilled, keepe the Receiuer close shut, and let it stand till it be cleere, and of the colour of a Rubie. Then distill it in *Balneo Maria* seuen times; and so it will lose this reddish colour, and become yellow as Gold, hauing a great smell and exceeding pleasant.

\* The Lute may be made of Clay, Flockes, and Salt-water, tempered together; or of Meale and whites of Egges.

† The Lute being first dried in the Sunne or by the fire.

Now as Honie is good by it selfe, either altered or in his owne kinde; so is it also being mixt with many other Simples: which here to declare would seeme but tedious and impertinent. Notwithstanding it shall not be amisse, in two or three instances, to giue you a taste of such Confections; and first of those that are inwardly, then of those that are outwardly receiued.

Of the first sort are Marmalade, and Marchpane, preserved Fruits, as Plums, and Cherries, &c. Conserues of Roses, Violets, &c. with Syrups of the like matter.

Marmalade is thus made. First boile your Quinces in their skins till they be soft: then, hauing pared and strained them, mix there-with the like quantitie of clarified Honie: and boile this together till it be so thicke, that in stirring (for you must continually stirre it for feare of burning) you may see the bottom; or, being cooled on a Trencher, it be thicke enough to slice: then take it vp and box it speedily. You may also adde a quantitie of Almonds, and Nut-kernels: also Cinamom, Ginger, Cloues and Mace, of each a like quantitie,

10.

*The making of it.*

11.

*The vertue of Honie in Confections.*

12.

*Marmalade made of Honie.*



13.  
Marchpane.

titie, pounded small and put into the Honie with the Quinces, and in boiling to be stirred together. This is very good to comfort and strengthen the stomach. For want of Quinces you may take Wardens, Peares, or Apples, and specially the Peare-maine, Giliflower, Pipin, and Roiall.

Marchpane may be made after this manner, Boile and clarifie by it selfe, so much Honie as you thinke meet: when it is cold, take to euery pound of Honie the white of an Egge, and beat them together in a Bason, till they bee incorporated together and wax white, and when you haue boiled it againe two or three walmes vpon a fire of coles, continually stirring it, then put to it such quantitie of \* blanch'd Almonds or Nut-kernels stamped, as shall make it of a iust consistence: and after a warme or two more, when it is well mixt, powre it out vpon a Table, and make vp your Marchpane. Afterward you may ice it with Rose-water and Sugar. This is good for the Consumption.

\* Steepe them a night in cold water, and the peeles will come off.

14.  
Preserues.

*Preserue Fruits after this manner.*

The Damascens, or other Fruit, being gathered fresh from the tree, faire, and in their prime, neither greene or sower, nor ouer-ripe or sweet, with their stalks, but cut short, weigh them, and take their weight in raw fine Honie: and putting to the Honie the like quantitie of faire water, boile it some halfe quarter of an houre, or till it will yeeld no skum: then hauing slit the Damascens in the dented side for feare of breaking, boile them in this liquor with a soft fire, continually skimming and turning them till the meat cometh cleane from the stone, and then take them vp. If the liquor be then too thinne, boile it more: if in the boiling it be too thick, put in more faire water, or Rose-water if you like it. The liquor being of a fit consistence, lay vp and preserue therein your Fruits.

If they be greater Fruits, as Quinces, Pipins, or the like; then shall it bee expedient, when you haue bored them through the middle, or haue otherwise coared them, to put them in as soone as the liquor is first skimmed: and then to let them boile till they be as tender as Quodlings.

Conserues

Conserues of Roses is thus to be made. Take of the juice of fresh Red Roses one ounce, of fine Honie\* clarified tenne ounces, boile this together: when it beginneth to boile, adde of the leaues of fresh Red Roses clipt with Scissors in little pieces foure ounces, boile them to the consumption of the juice, and presently put vp the Conserues into some earthen vessell. Keepe it long therein: for in time it waxeth better and better. *Sylv. l. 3. de med. simp. mist.*

15.  
Conserues.  
*Mel rosatum.*  
\* Cum vnc.  
aqua tribus  
mediocriter  
despumetur.  
7. n. 7.

After the same manner is made Conserues of Violets. Syrup of Roses make thus. Steep fresh Roses in hot water ouer the Embers, (the vessell being couered) vntill the Roses wax pale: then straine out the Roses, and put fresh in their places, vntill they also are pale: this doe ten times, or vntill the water be red. And this being purged with Whites of Egges, (to euery pinte of liquor one) boile it gently with like quantitie of fine Honie, vntill it be of convenient thicknesse. If you prepare it for present vses, the lesse boiling will serue: if you meane to keepe it, it requireth more, for which purpose the sunning of it is good. This purgeth a little, specially being new. *Sylv. Med. S. Mist. l. 3.*

Mel violatum.  
16.  
Syrups.  
Syrup of Roses.

Or thus. Steep one pound of Red Rose leaues in foure pound of water foure and twentie houres. When the water is strained, put vnto it two pound of fine Honie, and boile it to the thicknesse of a Syrup, taking off the skumme as it riseth. It tempereth the hot affections of the braine, it quencherth thirst, it strengthneth the stomacke, it procureth sleepe, and stayeth thin rheumes. *Fern. Meth. lib. 7.*

The Syrup of Violets is made, after the same manner, of fragrant Violets, and steeped vntill the liquor be blew. Being well boiled it may be kept a yeare without vinewing or corruption. It tempereth and purgeth hot and sharp humours; and therefore is good in a Pleurisie: it expellerth Melancholie, and the effects thereof, as head-ach, waking, dreaming, and heauinesse of heart: it is fit to be vsed before, and after purging. *Plantius in Fernel. meth. l. 7.*

Syrup of Violets.

If any man like better to make these Confections with Sugar, let them take the like quantitie of Honie: for Sugar

also



also hath with his sweetnesse a power to \* preferue, as being a † kinde of Honie.

\* Condiuntur fructus aut melle, aut Saccharo. *Fernal. Meth. l. 4. c. 17. & Sylv. simpl. med. mist. l. 3.*

† Saccharum quod ex India & felici Arabia conuehitur, concreuit in calamis: estque mellis species, nostrate certe minus dulces, sed similes ei vires obtinens, quod ad abstergendum, desiccandum, & digerendum pertinet. *Galen. de simpl. med. facult. lib. 7.* Item, *Est & quoddam melle concretum quod Saccharum nominant: quodque in India & felici Arabia in arundinibus reperitur.* Saccharum est mel in arundinibus collectum. *Plin. l. 4. c. 8.* Saccharum mellis species cum sit, siccat quoque & abstergit. *Fern. Meth. l. 6. c. 12.*

17.  
Honie to be preferred before  
Sugar.

*K. p. 2. n. 4. & 6.  
P. n. 1. & 2.*

But in respect of the maruellous efficacie, which fine v. and pure Honie hath in preserving health, v. that grosse and earthy stuffe is no whit comparable to this Celestiall Nectar. Although some queint and Ladilike palats (whom nothing but that which is farre sought and deare bought can please) unhappily neglect it. In preserving Fruits it hath more power through the viscositie thereof. Also Conserues, and Syrups being made with Honie \* continue longer, and doe more kindly worke their effects. So that wee may conclude with *Ecclesiasticus, cap. 11. 3.* *The Bee is little among such as flye: but hir Fruit is the chiefe of sweet things.*

\* Ex melle confectus syrupus diutius asservatur; is quoque magis incidit, ac detergit. Ex Saccharo suavior, sed non æque efficax. *Fern. Meth. l. 4. c. 12.*

18  
Honie good in  
outward medicines.

19.  
A salve for an  
old sore.

Honie is vsed in outward medicines for diuers purposes: \* not onely to conteine the other ingredients in forme of a Plaister; but also to open, to cleanse, to dry, to digest, and to resist putrefaction. And therefore it hath the predominance in that excellent Salve, called † *Unguentum Aegyptiacum*: which serueth to cleanse and mundifie old sores, and to take away both dead and proud flesh. The receipt whereof is this. Of Verdegrece five ounces, of strong Vineger seven ounces, and of Honie foureteene: boile first the Honie and Vineger, and stirre them together: after a little while put in the Verdegrece, being pounded to powder: and then, stirring all together,

together, let them boile vntill the Ointment haue his iust thicknesse and Purple colour.

\* Mel panaciz & alijs quibusdam emplastris miscetur, ut corpus præbeat emplasticum, & præterea siccet, tergeat, digerat, à putredine vindicet. *Sylv. de med. simp. mist. l. 3.* Mel calidum siccumque ordine secundo aperit, putredini obstitit, siccatur, deterget, expurgatque macatus & ulcera; nec ut sal, corporum substantiam coarctat. *Fern. Meth. l. 6. c. 12.*

† *Sylv. de med. simp. mist. l. 3. sect. 10.* & *Fern. Meth. l. 7.*

*Another of like vertue, but not so much corrosiue.*

Boile a quart of good Ale in a Skillet to halfe a pinte, skimming off the froth as it ariseth: then put in a spoonfull of good Honie: and skimming still as need is, let it boile to the halfe, or till it be so clammy that being taken vp vpon a stickes end it will not drop, but string downe like clarified Honie.

20  
Another.

**W**Hat are the vertues and properties of *Meth* or *Hydromel*, may partly be knowne by that which hath beene said of Honie. For seeing Honie is the chiefe matter whereof it is made; it must needs, together with the substance of Honie, participate the naturall qualities thereof. The which, by the purifying in boyling, together with the accesse of sundry holsome ingredients, *v.* are rather confirmed and increased, than any way extenuated or diminished. Therefore saith Lobel, *Mulsam, ubi aqua plurimum mellis non multum, diuturnâ intestinâq, mellis ebullitione in vinum longè utilissimum abit.* And Pictorius, *Hydromel longâ vetustate transit in vinum stomacho convenientissimum.* Meth, when it is old, is a Wine most agreeable to the stomach: it recouereth (1) the appetite being lost, it (2) openeth the passage of the Spirit or breath, it (3) softneth the belly, it (4) is good for them that haue the cough. (5) If a man take it, not as his ordinarie drinke, but, as Physick, now and then; he shall receiue much benefit by it against Quartan Agues, against Cacexies, and against the diseases of the braine, as the *Epilepsie*, or the falling Euill: for which Wine is pernicious: it (6) cureth the Yellow Iaudise: it (7) is also good against Henne-bane with Milke, and against the Winter-

21.  
The properties and vertues of Made and Methylen.

*V. p. 2. n. 21. 22.*  
24.



Winter-cherrie, it (8) nourisheth the bodie. (9) So that many haue attained to long old age, onely by the vse thereof. And therefore no maruaile that *Pollio Romulus*, who was an hundred yeares old, imputed the greatest cause of his long continued health to this Soueraigne drinke. (10) For being asked of *Augustus* the Emperour, by what meanes especially he had so long preserued that vigor both of minde and body, his answer was, *Intus mulso, foris oleo.*

(1.2.3.4.) *Pictorius*, & *Plin. hist. l. 22. c. 24.* (5) *Lobel.* (6.7.8.9.10.) *Plin. hist. l. 22. c. 24.*

22.  
Meth much vsed  
of the ancient  
Britaines.

23.  
Whence Meth  
and Methæ-  
glen haue their  
name.

The same thing is more manifested by the generall example of the ancient *Britaines*: who, aboue all other Nations, haue euer beene addicted to *Meth* and *Methaglen*. For vnder Heauen there is no fairer people of complexion, nor of more sound and healthfull bodies. Of whose *Methaglen* *Lobel* writeth thus; *Cambricus ille potus Methagla, non patrio, uti putant illi, sed Græco nomine dictus, est altera liquida & limpida Septentrionis theriaca.*

\* *Hydromel borealibus, quibus vineta defunt, pro vino est. Ideoque Cambris à μῆδυ Meth dicitur. Pro qua voce Germani (quibus Teutonico idiomate solenne est D pro Th usurpare, ut in De, Dis, Dat, Dander; pro The, Tbis, That, Thunder) adeoque Angli etiam, alijque populi boreales à Germanis oriundi, corrupte dicunt Mede. Medonis plurimum bibunt Poloni & Lituani, quod Melle abundant, inquit Andreas Matthiolus. Methaglen vero, quod Hydromel est præstantius, à μῆδυ αἰγλῆν sive contractè αἰγλῆν, id est, vinum splendidum denominatur: quod (modò verus sit & rite confectum) non minus colore succino, quam sapore & virtute præ vinis vinaceis splendeat. De hoc Mercator in Transylvania. Ex melle incolæ delicatum potum conficiunt: qui etiam rerum peritis, vinum Creticum cœu Malvaticum opinantibus, facile imponat. Et Vlysses Aldrovander de mulso. Fit præterea ex melle potus genus toti nunc Sarmatæ, vicinisque Moscovitis familiare. Vnde etiam per totam Europam fere, præcipue per Germaniam devehitur. Decoquitur multipliciter oromate addito, (Medonem vocant) tam nobile sæpe ac lautiorum tantum mensarum sit, & primates solum bibant. Item Mercator in Bohemia de civitate Eggra. Totâ ornatissima, tota pulcherrima est. Intus pulchris edificijs, civili urbanoque populo, magnificis & eximia virtute præstantibus viris illustris: foris vero amoenissimis ac fecundissimis hortis & agris varijsque pomorum ac fructuum generibus luxurians. Claret hodie hæc civitas ob Medonem (portionem ex melle) qui nullâ paratur quàm in hac civitate excellentior.*

■ Methæglen.

And as good and old *Methaglen* excelleth all Wines, as well

well for pleasantness in taste, as for health; so being burnt it is better than any burnt Wine, for comforting and setting of a weake and sicke stomach, and for recreating the naturall hear.

The manner of burning it (if you know not) may be this. First set on the fire a deepe Skillet or Kettle, almost full of water: when it boileth, put in a Pewter pot full of *Methaglen*: before that beginneth to boile, skimme it and put in two or three bruised Clouer, and a branch of Rose-marie: then beat the yolke of an Egge in a dish, put vnto it a spoonfull of the *Meth* cold, and stirre them together to keep the yolke from curdling: then put to that a spoonfull of the hot *Meth*: and after that an other, and an other, alwaies beating them together: and then, some and some, put all into the pot, still stirring it about. Then as soone as it boileth, rake vp the pot, and, sauing your hands harmelesse, powre it into another warme pot of like capacite, firing it as it runneth: and so brue it till it will burne no more. A *Methaglen*-poller is of the like vertue.

The deeper the pot standeth, the sooner it boileth. You may, for a need, set the pot on the Harth in the midst of hot Embers: but take heed the flame melt not the Powder.

**W**AX hath no certaine elementar qualitie, but is a meane betweene (1) hot and cold, and betweene dry and moist. It (2) mollifieth the sinewes, it (3) ripeneth and resoluerh Vicers. (4) The quantitie of a Pease in Wax, being swallowed downe of Nurces, doth dissolue the Milke curded in the paps, and (5) ten round peeces of Wax, of the bignesse of so many graines of Millet or Hempseed, will not suffer the Milke to curdle in the stomach.

Moreouer, it maketh the most excellent; light fit for the vses of the most excellent; for cleernesse, sweetnesse, nearnesse, to be preferred before all other: Which *Scaliger* in his *Enigmata*, giuing it the precedence, doth intimate

24.  
The properties  
and vertues of  
naturall Wax.

*Ant. Apis, aut Hircus, vel pingua viscera Plini  
Ostendere diem, post simul ante diem.*

(1) Galen



(17) *Cera* 2i. *fat. mell.* *fat. l.* 7. (2, 3, 4, 5.) *Singula* *Pistulae*. *Cera* *laxa* *magis* *emolliat*, *retinet*, *dolorem* *solvit*: *coque* *illa* *unius* *ad* *abscessus* *calefaciendos*, *emolliendos*, *concoquendos*, & *curandos*. *Idem*. *Gualtherius Andernacus*. *Omnis* *cera* *mollit*, *calefacit*, *explet* *corpora*: *re-*  
*cens* *melior*. *Datur* *in* *sorbitione* *dysentericis*, *favique* *ipsi* *in* *pulve* *alio*  
*prout* *colle* *adversatur* *lactis* *naturae*: *et* *colly* *magis* *medicis* *Secum* *plena*  
*cera* *massa*, *non* *potuerit* *coagulari* *in* *stomacho*. *Si* *aliquis* *emul-*  
*sibit* *cera* *in* *pube* *fixisse* *remedio* *est*. *Nec* *hujus* *visus*, *quos* *mixta* *al-*  
*praestat*, *enumerare* *medicina* *potest*. *Pli. nat. hist. li. 22. cap. 24.*

25.  
Artificial Wax.

26.  
To make white  
Wax.

This naturall yellow Wax is by Art, for certaine purposes,  
made white, red, and green.

Wax is whited after this manner. Take the whitest and purest Wax: which, being cut into small peeces, put into an earthen Vessell, and pour Sea-water or Brine upon it, as much as may suffice to boile it. And cast in also a little Nitre. All this set ouer a soft fire. When it hath boyled vp to your choice, lift the Vessell from the fire, and, the wax being perfectly cooled with cold water, take it out: and when you haue scraped off the drosse, if any such hang on, and put it into other Salt water, seeth it againe. And hauing boyled it twice or thrice, as before, lift it from the fire againe. And then take the bottom of an other earthen pot, or a hole round board with a handle in the middle like a Churn-staff, but without holes: and hauing first wetted the bottom of it in cold water, dip it into the hot Vessell, and alioone as this wet bottom toucheth the wax, pull it out againe, and you shall haue sticking to the bottom a thin cake: which when you haue taken off, wet the bottom againe, and dip it as before: and thus doe till you haue taken vp all the wax in cakes. These cakes hang in the open aire vpon a line drawne through them, so that they may not touch one on other, besprinkling them with water in the Sunne till they be white. If any man would haue wax whiter, let him boile it ofner, and doe all other things in like manner as before.

Hanc de albanda serationem docuit Dn<sup>us</sup> Coradus, 125. 103.

27.  
To make red  
Wax.

To make Waxred, Take so one pound of Wax, in Summer three ounces of cleare Turpentine, in Winter foure. These

# These

These dissolve over a soft fire, and by and by take it off to coole a little. Afterward mix therewith the red Root of *Archeuse* or *Permillan*, well ground on a Marble or Glasse, and sweet Oile, of each one ounce: stire all these and mix them well together. For want of *Permillan*, they take three times so much red Lead, but that is not so good.

To make Greene Wax, take in stead of *Permillan*, the like quantitie of *Vert-de-grec*.

And such is Wax in his kinde, both Naturall and Artificiall. Naturall Wax is altered by distillation into an Oile of marvellous vertue. *Raymond Lully* greatly commendeth it, prouing it to be rather a Cœlestiall or Diuine medicine than humane; because in wounds it worketh miraculously: which therefore is not so well allowed of the common Chirurgeons. For it healeth a wound, be the same neuer so wide and big, being afore wide stretched vp, in the space of eleven daies or 13. at the most. But those that are small, this Oile healeth in three or foure daies, by annointing onely the wound therewith, and laying on a cloth wet in the same. It stayeth the shedding of the haire, either on the head or beard, by annointing the place therewith.

Also for inward diseases, this Oile worketh miracles, if you giue one drachme at a time to drinke with white Wine: for it is excellent in prouoking vrine which is stopped, it helpeth stiches and paines in the loines, it helpeth the cold Gour, or Sciatica, and all other griefes coming of cold.

The making or drawing of this Oile is on this wise. Take of pure new yellow Wax so much as will halfe fill your Retort or Body of Glasse: melt it on the fire, and then powre it into sweet Wine, wherein let it soake: wash it often, and wring it between your hands: then melt it againe and powre it into fresh Wine, wherein soake it, wash it, and wring it as before: and this doe seven times, every time putting it into fresh Wine. When thus you haue purified the Wax,

\* Cinabrium.

Minium.

28.

To make Greene Wax.

29.

Oile of Wax.

30.

The vertues of it.

31.

The making of Oile of Wax.



V. 10.

to every pound thereof adding foure ounces of the powder of red Bricke finely bruised; put it all together into your Retort of Glasse well luted: v. then set the Retort into an Earthen pot, filling it round about and beneath with fine sifted Ashes or Sand; and set the pot with the Bodie in it on a Furnace, and so distill it with a soft fire. And there will come forth a faire yellow Oile, the which will congeale in the receiuer like Pap when it is cold. If you should rectifie this oile or distill it often, vntill it will congeale no more; then shall you make it ouer hot to take inwardly, and so quicke in the mouth, that you cannot drinke it downe. In the coming forth of this Oile, shall appeare in the Receiuer the foure Elements, the Fire, the Aire, the Water, and the Earth, right maruellous to see.

32.  
The vertue of  
Wax in com-  
pound medicines.

33.  
A Cere-cloth.

So vertuous is Wax by it selfe, both in his owne kinde, and altered by distillation. It is moreouer of great vse mixed with others, and is the ground and foundation of *Cere-clothes* and *Salues*: whereof to set downe two or three examples shall not be amisse.

A *Cere-cloth* or *Ceratum*, so called of *Cera*, doth consist chiefly of Wax and Oile mixed in such proportion, as may make the ointment of iust consistence: and therefore (1) being made in Summer, or compounded with Turpentine, Lard, Gum, Marrow, or any liquid thing, a greater quantity of Wax is required: and being made in Winter, or compounded with Rozin, Pitch, Metals, dried Hearbs, Powders, or any dry thing, a lesse quantity of Wax than Oile is conuenient.

34.  
The Ingrediente  
of the Cere-cloth  
V. 7.

The Ingrediente being prepared, first melt the Wax, and whatsoeuer else of like nature, as Pitch, Suet, &c. in the Oile ouer a gentle fire, or in a double vessell, v. for feare of burning: when they are melted together, put in the Powders and other like Ingrediente, if there be any: and as soone as you haue stirred them well together, (before the liquor be very hot) set it a cooling, and make your *Cere-cloth*.

A Cere

*A Cere-cloth* to refresh the wearied Sinewes and tired Muscles is thus to be made. Take (2.) Oile and Wax *ana* two ounces, Turpentine two drams, & Honey halfe an ounce.

To comfort the stomacke and helpe concoction, make a *Cerat* thus. Take (3.) Oile of Masticke, of Mint, of Wormwood, of Nutmeg, and Specke, or any of these, and a convenient quantitie of Wax.

For the wormes in the belly of a childe or other, Take Wax and Rozin *Ana* one ounce, Treacle one spoonfull, Aloes two drams. Melt & mingle the Wax & Rozin together in a Pewter-dish, vpon a Chafing-dish and Coales being melted, skimming it cleane: then taking it off, put in the Treacle, and stirre it among: then hauing powdered the Aloes to powder, strew it vpon, and stirre it in, so that it may not clod. And if, by this time, it be too cold to come from the dish, warme it a little vpon the Chafing-dish againe: then hauing wet the Table with Butter, poure it thereon, and worke it together with your knife: and so make it vp in a Roule. To make the Dish cleane, warme it, and wipe it with a woollen cloth.

This *Cerat* is to be applied to the Brest, and to the Nauell. For the Nauell, spread it vpon a round peece of Leather three inches ouer, with a hoale in the middle; that, the Nauell comming through, the plaister may lie both closer and faster: and for the Brest, spread it vpon a square peece three inches broad, and twice so long: and lay it athurt the Brest, betweene, or close vnder the Paps.

This doe twice together, and let the Plaisters remaine each time vpon the place, vntill the heat of the stomacke haue dried them, and made them loose: which, in some that are much troubled with the wormes, will be within foure and twentie houres; although in some they will sticke a whole weeke together.

(1) Fern. Meth. lib. 4. c. 19. & 20. (2) Fern. Meth. l. 4. c. 19. (3) Fern. Meth. l. 5. c. 22.

For example of a Salue, take *Emplastrum de janua*, marvellous effectuall in curing greene wounds and new vlcers.

34.  
*A Cere-cloth to refresh the Sinewes and Muscles.*

35.  
*A Cere-cloth to comfort the stomacke.*  
\* Nardinum.

36.  
*A Cere-cloth for the Wormes.*

37.  
*A Salue for a greene wound.*



It allwageth inflammation, it cleaseth, it closeth, and filleth with flesh, and maketh whole. It is thus made: Take the juice of Parsley, Plantain, and Betonic, one one pound: Wax, Pitch, Rozin, and Turpentine, Tana halfe a pound: boile the Wax, Pitch, and Rozin in the Juices, softly stirring all together, vntill the quantie of the Juices be wasted: and then taking them off the fire, put in the Turpentine, and mix it with the rest.

*Another of like effect.*

Take Deere or Mutton-Suet, Wax, Rozin, and Turpentine p̄e ounce: boile these together, and skim them: then take this liquor from the fire, and, when it is somewhat cooled, put in two handfulls of the Tops of vnsert Hylop, and steepe it about, and setting it ouer the fire againe, boile it softly about a quarter of an houre, till it be greene and then straine it, and let it coole. This is chiefly so bet made in May, because then the Hylop is in his prime.

\* Sylvius de medicam. simpl. mist. lib. 3. & Fern. Meth. lib. 7.

P S A L. III. V. 2.

*Magna opera I E H O V A, exquisita  
ab omnibus qui delectantur in illis.*

**FINIS.**

[illegible]

THE GREAT BRITISH EMERALD

1. THE 1st of 1881  
2. THE 2nd of 1881  
3. THE 3rd of 1881  
4. THE 4th of 1881  
5. THE 5th of 1881  
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31. THE 31st of 1881

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